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Beduin kill settler south of Hebron

By MARGOT DUDKEVITCH

Dov Driben, 29, was shot to death by Beduin shepherds on a ranch situated on agricultural land belonging to Moshav Maon in the southern Hebron Hills yesterday morning.

Yehoshafat Tor, 28, and Ephraim Pearl were both wounded in the attack, which security forces said started as an argument in a continuing land dispute and ended violently when the shepherds snatched the settlers' guns and shot them before fleeing to the nearby village of Yana.

'Land dispute behind killing,' Page 2

Settlers, however, charged that the shepherds had waited for the settlers in a planned ambush before attacking them, snatching their weapons, and fleeing.

Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu, 47, reported, called on leaders of the Jewish community in Hebron to show restraint. Calling the incident "cold-blooded murder," he called on the settlers not to be drawn into doing anything that would later cause them problems.

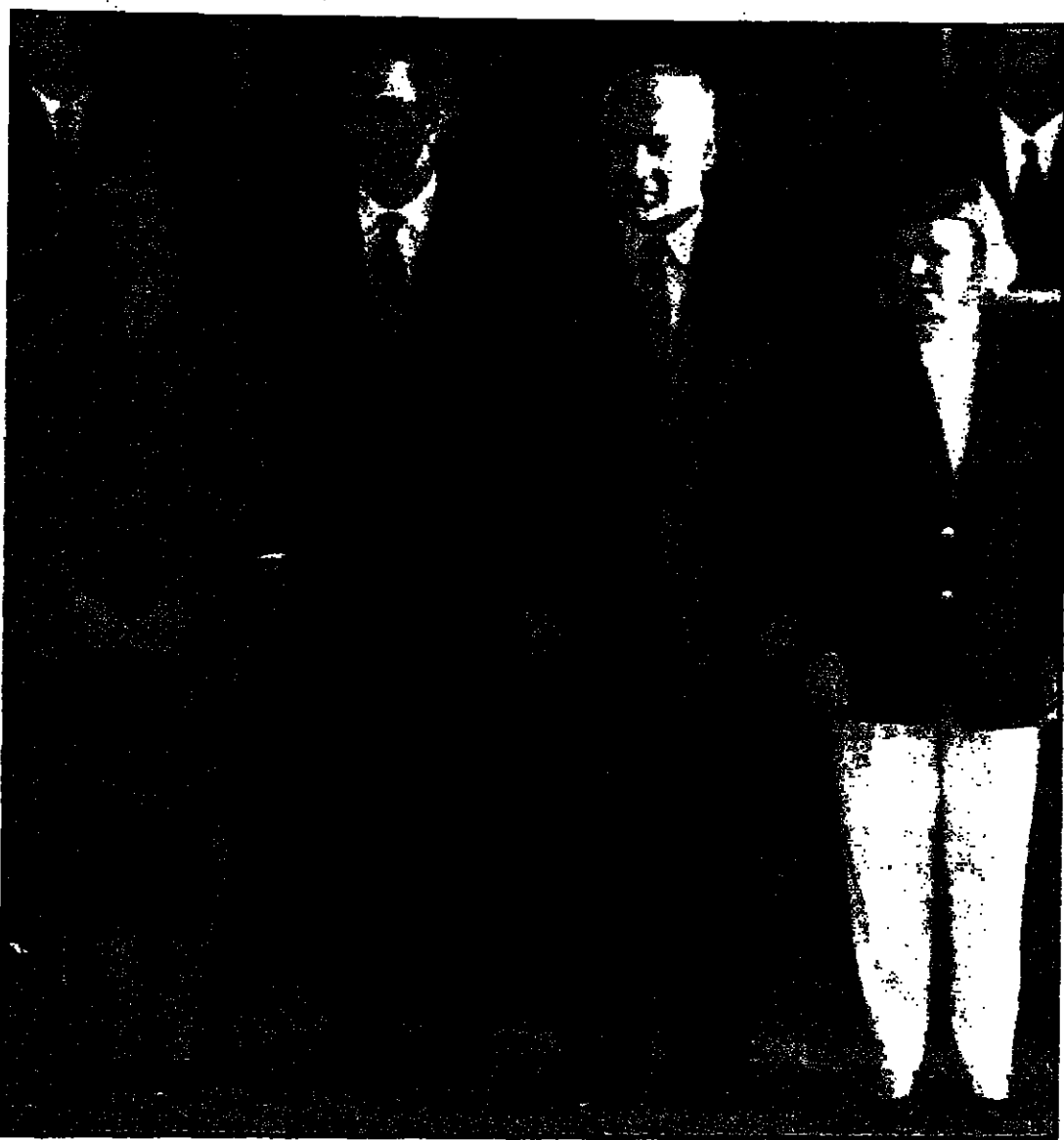
Last night, police spokesman Opher Sivan said nine Beduin, all from the Dabsha clan, had been detained for questioning. The clan claims to own the land on which the farm is located.

Sivan confirmed that one of the Beduin was caught in the nearby wadi, wearing bloodstained clothes. He said two guns had been taken from the settlers by their attackers. Palestinian sources said four Palestinians were wounded in the attack.

The police indicated that the incident was not being treated like a typical terror attack.

OC Hebron Col. Yigal Sharon said it appeared a clash had broken out between several settlers and a group of Beduin. The Beduin grabbed a settler's gun and opened fire.

See BEDUIN, Page 2



British Prime Minister Tony Blair (second from left) and Prime Minister Binyamin Netanyahu are flanked by their wives, Cherie and Sara, during a welcoming ceremony at the Prime Minister's Office yesterday.

(Brian Hestler)

Blair to host Israel-PA summit

By JAY BUSHINSKY

The United Kingdom will host an Israeli-Palestinian peace conference next month, to be attended by Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu and Palestinian Authority Chairman Yasser Arafat, as well as US Secretary of State Madeleine Albright and British Prime Minister Tony Blair, a senior diplomatic source said yesterday in Jerusalem.

Netanyahu and Blair are due to have an unscheduled second round of talks tomorrow morning, prior to the British leader's departure, at which the PA's reaction to the proposed summit is likely to be discussed.

The summit idea came as a surprise to the senior officials who took part in the larger forum in which the two leaders were joined by their respective aides, advisers and ambassadors.

"It came out of their one-on-one," said Ambassador to the UK Dror Zeigerman. The UK's envoy to Israel, David Manning concurred.

But political observers assumed that the US was aware of the impending move and unequivocally in favor, mainly because of the positive impact it could have in revitalizing the peace process and the high-profile status it would give the European Union as an effective partner in the peacemaking effort.

Topping the agenda evidently will

be the American proposals to end the deadlock between Israel and the PA on the depth of the IDF's next redeployment in the West Bank. The State Department is believed to favor an Israeli withdrawal from 13 percent of the territory under military control - four percentage points more than the government is

fact that the Israeli prime minister said that he was willing to go and discuss the proposals the Americans have made.

At the same time, Blair made it clear that he intends to continue synchronizing his government's and the European Union's Middle East policy with that of US President Bill Clinton.

Bearing in mind that the UK holds the EU's rotating presidency, Blair said "it is not our purpose to do anything that cuts across the US proposals and diplomatic effort."

Netanyahu repeatedly expressed his confidence that peace between Israel and the Palestinians can be achieved, as well as his personal commitment to seek an end to the conflict.

"I believe that with goodwill on both sides we can advance the negotiations and achieve a breakthrough to peace and a better future" in which Israelis and Palestinians can live as neighbors, he said.

Although Blair's role as a peacemaker was enhanced by the recent agreement to end the strife in Northern Ireland, he dismissed the notion that there can be an instant carryover of the spirit of Belfast to Jerusalem and Gaza or that he personally can do a repeat performance in the Middle East.

See BLAIR, Page 2

Currency reform plan to be detailed Sunday

By DAVID HARRIS

Prime Minister Binyamin Netanyahu, Finance Minister Yaakov Neeman, and Bank of Israel Governor Jacob Frenkel plan to announce the details of the currency exchange liberalization package on Sunday, a Netanyahu aide said yesterday.

Such a move would mean the government will have beaten its own timetable, in which it stipulated the reforms would be published to coincide with the 50th Independence Day on April 30.

Ophir Akoonis of the Prime Minister's Office yesterday dis-

missed media speculation that the announcement would be delayed because of disagreement between the Treasury and the central bank. Neeman's spokeswoman Esty Applebaum followed suit, describing that idea as "nonsense."

The eagerly anticipated announcement will lay the foundations for a new regime controlling the foreign exchange market.

As Frenkel has put it, until now the rule has been that all is forbidden other than that expressly permitted.

See CURRENCY, Page 2

NRP stunned after Rabbi Yosef's attack

By SARAH HONIG

State-religious education "is worthless" and its religion is "a sham," Shas mentor Rabbi Ovadia Yosef proclaimed late Saturday night while addressing a Shas gathering.

The former chief rabbi's hitherto unprecedented onslaught against the state-sponsored religious education system, closely associated with the National Religious Party, stunned the NRP last night.

"They are not truly religious at all," Yosef said of the religious-Zionist schools. "They don't educate children to religion. Their religion is skin deep and lip service only."

Yosef underscored his message by offering a new meaning to the NRP's Hebrew acronym. "What the letters Ma'f'al stand for is the party of the fools who will believe anything," he said.

Most of the NRP's upper echelon refused to comment on Yosef's words.

The exception was party secretary-general Zevulun Oriev, who said that "if anything, we are proud of a school system which has contributed so much and which continues to contribute so much to this country. I suggest Rabbi Yosef check among his own

party's leaders, and he will discover that many of them are graduates of our fine educational institutions. This is a wholly undeserved attack."

But off the record, the word in the NRP is that Yosef's remarks were not a slip of the tongue, but had a dual purpose.

The first is to drum up business for his own El Hama'ayan school system by putting down the competing state-religious schools.

But beyond that, the consensus in the NRP is that Yosef is fearful of the competition he now faces from another former Sephardi chief rabbi, Mordechai Eliahu, who is rapidly gaining a reputation

as the NRP's spiritual leader. Eliahu recently stepped down from the Rabbinical Court of Appeals and is thus more free now to involve himself in political affairs.

There is also considerable personal animosity between Yosef and Eliahu.

Yosef did not want to step down as chief rabbi in the early 1980s and resented the legalities which forced him to do so after 10 years. He was succeeded by Eliahu and, ever since, regarded him as a usurper.

It was after he left the chief rabbi's post that Yosef founded Shas.

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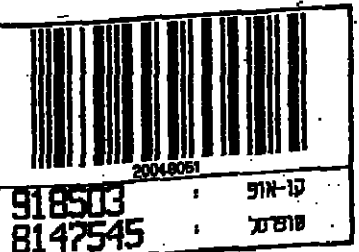
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NEWS

in brief

Poland honors Warsaw Ghetto uprising

Poland yesterday paid a somber tribute to Jewish fighters in the Warsaw Ghetto who launched a doomed last stand against the Nazis 55 years ago. To the sound of drum-rolls from an army honor guard, Prime Minister Jerzy Buzek and other top officials joined Jewish survivors in placing wreaths at the stark memorial to the heroes of the Warsaw Ghetto uprising.

In another gesture marking the anniversary, Poland last week gave its highest honor to Marek Edelman, one of the commanders of the Jewish Fighting Organization in the Ghetto. Reuters

Alleged teenage murderer kills himself

A teenager awaiting trial in a Maryland murder case with international implications — his codefendant is fighting extradition from Israel — killed himself in his jail cell, police said.

Aaron Needle, 18, was alone in a cell when his body was found Saturday by guards, said county police spokeswoman Ann Evans. "The victim was discovered hanging in his cell by a guard who was checking on him. It's not immediately known how Mr. Needle hanged himself or what he used to do it," Evans said. Needle was charged with participating in the dismemberment and burning of Alfredo Tello Jr., whose charred remains were found in a vacant Aspen Hill, Maryland, home last September. AP

Klestil reelected Austria's president

Thomas Klestil won reelection as Austria's president by a landslide yesterday, trouncing four challengers in a lackluster campaign by promising to retain his conservative agenda. The former diplomat won a second six-year term by garnering just over 63 percent of the vote, the second-best result achieved by a presidential candidate in postwar Austria, preliminary results said.

Klestil, 65, was the runaway favorite in a campaign that stirred little enthusiasm among Austrians from the start — mostly because the job is largely ceremonial. His challengers, including three political newcomers, struggled merely to rise above obscurity. AP

Linda McCartney dead at 56

Linda McCartney, who broke a generation of teenage girls' hearts when she married Beatle Paul McCartney, died Friday of cancer, the star's publicist said yesterday. She was 56.

The couple had announced in December 1995 that McCartney, a keen vegetarian who marketed her own range of meat-free dishes, was being treated for breast cancer. AP

Cohen arrives today from Cairo

Egypt and the US yesterday voiced determination to revitalize the stalled Middle East peace process during a meeting between President Hosni Mubarak and US Defense Secretary William Cohen.

Cohen is scheduled to arrive here today to discuss regional security, bilateral relations and Middle East peace before returning home tomorrow after a short stop in Greece. Cohen flew to Cairo from Amman, where he held talks with Jordan's King Hussein on Saturday. News agencies

Bomb dismantled near Gaza security fence

Border Police sappers dismantled an explosive device found yesterday afternoon near the security fence dividing the Palestinian autonomous area from Gush Katif, near Khan Yunis. Sappers said the device was operated by remote control.

The bomb was the third discovered in the past few days in the Gaza coast area. Two days ago, the IDF lodged a strong protest with the Palestinian Authority, saying the PA is responsible for preventing such incidents.

Earlier in the day, IDF troops stopped Palestinians attempting to build on a site adjacent to the settlement Morag in Gush Katif. IDF officers warned the Palestinian Police that such work violated the Oslo Accords. Margot Dudkevitch

UKM against direct election of PM

The United Kibbutz Movement yesterday vowed to combat the system of direct elections for prime minister but to oppose scrapping the primaries for the Labor Party's Knesset candidates. All but one member of the UKM's political secretariat came out against direct election. But the result was nearly the opposite so far as the primaries are concerned. Here there was a unanimous vote against scrapping the primaries.

The UKM, it said in a special resolution, will impose its discipline upon all kibbutz members in Labor to make sure that they toe the UKM line and vote against any attempts to rid the party of the primaries system. Sarah Honig

CURRENCY

Continued from Page 1

The new regulations, he has promised many times, will reverse that rule, making the shekel fully convertible worldwide and allowing Israeli households to freely and limitlessly export and import all currencies.

A Knesset Finance Committee debate on the plan, which was scheduled for this morning with the participation of Neeman and Frenkel, was canceled yesterday.

MKS said they were concerned by the uncertainty cast last week over local currency trading amid speculation over the contents of the package.

The failure to hold the meeting was described by MK Ophir Pines (Labor) as leading to even more uncertainty. Liberalization is a good idea, he said, but it is now nevertheless faltering because of "clumsiness" and an inability to carry out plans.

Meanwhile, the central bank yesterday announced that M1 money supply increased one percent last month. Over the last 12 months, M1 has risen 10.2%.

The increase in money supply may offset the impact of the 0.2% consumer price index for March and make the central bank refrain from cutting interest rates next week, despite the steady decline in the cost of living, economists said.

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The Jacobson and Shimoff Families

'Land dispute behind Driben's death'

By STEVE RODAN

The dispute over the ranch near Moshav Maon in the Hebron Hills is only one of several, relating to some 1,000 dunams of land being illegally occupied by Israelis in the area. Mussa Hamri, a Palestinian activist who fights what he terms Israeli expropriation of Palestinian land, said yesterday.

Four Palestinians were wounded, one of them seriously, in the clash with Israelis yesterday on the ranch. Palestinian sources said.

The sources, who included participants in the clash in which Dov Driben was killed and two others were wounded, said eight Palestinians from the Yatta area, south of Hebron, were passing through the Maon ranch, which they claim is their land.

The sources said Driben drew a pistol and the Palestinians pounced on him, grabbed the weapon and shot him and another Israeli in what they claimed was self-defense.

At that point, they said, another Israeli began to spray the Palestinians with automatic gunfire, wounding the four Palestinians.

Three of the wounded were described as being in fair condition, the sources said. The fourth was shot in the chest and was in serious condition in Hebron's Alia Hospital.

The sources said residents of the Yatta area have been waging a



A policeman stands guard over a man detained for questioning following the fatal shooting of Dov Driben in the Hebron Hills. Inset: Driben with two of his four children.

long campaign against the Maon ranch and added that Driben was regarded as particularly hostile to them.

The Palestinians fled back to Area B and the Hebron area, while three IDF aircraft searched the hills around the ranch, the

sources said.

The sources also said that a 70-year-old Palestinian identified as Issa Sabri was beaten in Kiryat

Arba, apparently in retaliation for Driben's killing. The report could not be immediately confirmed by Israeli authorities.

Sarid: Arafat agrees to joint delegation

By LIAT COLLINS

Palestinian Authority head Yasser Arafat supports a joint Israeli-Jordanian-Egyptian-Palestinian delegation which would go to Washington and Europe to encourage US and European involvement in the peace process.

Meretz leader Yossi Sarid, who met with him yesterday, said Arafat had agreed to the idea which was decided on last week during a meeting in Amman between Sarid and Jordan's King Hussein, although last week no official mention was made of Egyptian participation.

Sarid said the delegation would encourage "balanced and respon-

sible involvement in an attempt to save the peace process from collapse."

Sarid met with Arafat, together with Jordanian parliamentarian Hamade Faraneh, the king's envoy.

He said Arafat had called it "an important initiative" and that he would discuss it with Egyptian Foreign Minister Amr Moussa when he comes to Gaza next week.

Sarid said he was not calling for foreign pressure, which he said would be harmful, but for the sort of involvement which had been successful in Northern Ireland.

Arafat is concerned the peace process is completely frozen and there is little chance of a thaw, according to Sarid.

Former Mossad chief Admoni:

Begin ordered Mossad to hunt for Mengele

By STEVE RODAN

Prime minister Menachem Begin had proposed that the Mossad search for major Nazi war criminals, but scaled down his plan to a hunt for Auschwitz doctor Josef Mengele, a former Mossad chief said last night.

Nahum Admoni, who served as Mossad head under prime ministers Begin, Yitzhak Shamir and Shimon Peres, said Begin had proposed a plan to revive Mossad Nazi-hunting efforts around the globe.

Admoni said the Mossad had been active in such efforts until 1961, when it captured Adolf Eichmann, considered the architect of the "Final Solution."

"I told prime minister Begin that his plan would take away much-needed resources from the Mossad," Admoni recalled, during a conference on intelligence held in memory of president Chaim Herzog, at the intelligence memorial museum at Gilot. "In the end he compromised and we decided the only target would be Mengele."

Indeed, the Mossad searched for Mengele for several years until his reported death in the mid-1980s in Paraguay.

Admoni said that Begin's proposal was unusual in that most prime ministers did not present specific plans of action to Mossad chiefs.

Instead, he said, the prime ministers would make general recom-

mendations, such as intensifying the war on terrorism.

At the conference, Herzog's son, Col. Michael Herzog, a senior intelligence officer, announced a fund in memory of his father that would help sponsor studies and conferences on intelligence issues.

Leading intelligence officers attended the conference, in which Chaim Herzog was praised as the founder of the IDF's intelligence branch.

Labor Party Chairman Ehud Barak, a former military intelligence chief, said he bemoaned that today's policymakers — a reference to the Netanyahu government — do not have an intimate relationship with Israel's intelligence heads.

BEDUIN

Continued from Page 1

Sharon told the reporters that there had been a long-standing conflict over the land where the shooting occurred.

According to initial reports, Driben and Tor went into the wadi shortly after 9 a.m. to ask eight to 10 Beduin shepherds to leave the area. An argument broke out and the Beduin threw stones at the two, then grabbed their guns and shot them.

Pearl who was unarmed, saw the incident from a nearby hilltop and ran to assist his friends. He was also stoned, but managed to run to the farm and take an M-16 and fire at the Beduin as they were fled, apparently wounding one of them.

Driben was shot in the head and heart; Tor suffered from multiple abrasions and cuts and shotgun wounds to his knee and groin. He was flown by helicopter to Soroka Hospital in Beersheba.

Pearl, suffering from a concussion, was treated at Kiryat Arba and then transferred to Hadassah-

University Hospital in Jerusalem's Ein Karem for tests. He was later released.

Driben, the father of four, was buried at the regional cemetery in Sussiya early last night.

A statement issued by Maon yesterday afternoon condemned the attempt to present the fatal attack as the result of a feud between shepherds.

The residents charged that it was a clearly planned attack on Jews by Arabs attempting to take over the land.

"The Arabs carried axes and clubs; they were not on their way to the mall, nor to the pool... There is nothing in these mountains but Jews, and they came to attack Jews," said Mario Levenbrok, the moshav's secretary.

Amir Kitron, deputy head of the Southern Hebron Hills Regional Council, demanded that the terrorists who carried out the attack be extradited immediately and that the government refrain from carrying out further withdrawals.

"The ranch is situated on land that belongs to the moshav. The ranch is situated outside the secu-

city fence that encompasses the residential area only," he added.

Kiryat Arba Local Council head Tzvi Katsover said that "last night Tor told me that his weapon had been confiscated several weeks ago and that he had been charged by police with firing shots in a populated area, referring to an incident in which Tor sought to disperse Palestinians at the farm by firing in the air."

The incident he was referring to was confirmed by police spokesman Sivan, who said that Tor had fired shots in the air to disperse Palestinians demonstrating near the ranch some months ago. Sivan said police investigated and no charges were brought against Tor and his weapon was returned to him three months later.

Other settlers said Driben had filed a complaint with Hebron police after local Beduin had threatened and harassed him a few weeks ago.

Labor Party leader Ehud Barak condemned the attack, saying that "no quarrel or dispute justifies the terrible sin of taking human life."

BLAIR

Continued from Page 1

"The British position is different here," Blair said.

But he stressed the importance of maintaining momentum and activity in the negotiating effort.

"If progress isn't made, the situation tends to move backward," he said. "But if there is a willingness, progress will be made, which must be followed up by concrete steps."

Speaking at a state dinner last night, Blair said that "peace requires a degree of trust. When people don't trust one another they must overcome the mistrust to reach a settlement."

"Ohev shalom, verodef shalom [He who loves peace, and pursues peace]," he said in Hebrew. He then toasted the 50th anniversary of Israel.

Asked whether he endorsed Arafat's intention to declare an independent Palestinian state in May 1999, Blair produced a diplomatic rejoinder.

"It is better that the process work as it was envisaged," he said. Blair also fended off a query about the omission of Jerusalem Mayor Ehud Olmert from the list

of local leaders on his official itinerary. He denied that a visit to the Jerusalem Municipality was de rigueur.

Asked if he favored the release of Mordechai Vanunu, who was imprisoned for 18 years after publicizing Israeli nuclear secrets, he said: "No, that is not the position of the British government."

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PA hopeful about Blair, Ross visits

By STEVE RODAN

The Palestinian Authority expressed confidence yesterday that the US, after months of delays, is preparing to launch a peace offensive, to ensure that Israel implements the 1997 accord to redeploy in the West Bank.

PA officials said the visit of British Prime Minister Tony Blair and the arrival later this week of US envoy Dennis Ross are connected, part of Washington's drive to pressure Israel to soften its opposition to a withdrawal from parts of the territories.

Israel has offered to hand nine percent of the West Bank to full Palestinian control and another 13% to partial PA control. The PA wants at least 20% of the territory to be passed to their full control.

The next two weeks will show clear US movement in the process, PA Chairman Yasser Arafat said, in an interview broadcast repeatedly on Voice of Palestine radio yesterday.

Arafat said he was satisfied with the efforts of US President Bill Clinton and said within the next few days the administration's

peace drive will be seen.

Arafat is scheduled to meet Blair in Gaza today. Blair is also meeting today with a Palestinian delegation headed by Faisal Hussein, the PA minister responsible for Jerusalem affairs. The meeting will take place in the British consulate in the Sheikh Jarrah neighborhood in the eastern part of the city.

PA officials said they were pleased by Blair's refusal to meet with Jerusalem Mayor Ehud Olmert. They said such a move was an admission by Blair, who is also the current president of the European Union, that Israel does not legally control the entire city.

Meanwhile, the PA chief said in an interview conducted by the Orbit satellite channel, originally broadcast on Palestinian television on Saturday night, that he will proclaim a state in May 1999 and does not fear Israeli threats of reprisals.

"In 1999, God willing, we will announce our state," he said. "Our choice is not just that of the Palestinian people but for the entire Arab people."

Douglas Davis adds from London:

Arafat plans to ask Blair for additional British and European Union financial aid to help prevent a potential Palestinian civil war, the *Observer* said yesterday.

The request is to come three weeks after the death of Hamas bombmaker Muhi Sharif, who is suspected to have been killed by other Palestinians.

Arafat will warn Blair that "Hamas poses terrible dangers both to his regime and to the Middle East peace process," the report said.

The EU has already delivered a total of \$1.8 billion over the past five years and recently decided to extend its aid program, which was to have ended this year. Britain contributes to the Palestinian coffers both directly and through the EU.

While Britain has blamed Israel for the stagnant Palestinian economy and the fall in Palestinian living standards, no mention is ever made of the corruption and waste that is said to have accounted for more than one-half of the Palestinian budget last year.



British Prime Minister Tony Blair and his wife Cherie examine a photographic exhibit at Yad Vashem yesterday. Blair used the occasion to deliver a message of hope. "Having realized the depths of evil to which humanity can sink, now let us hope in the future we can show the heights to which humanity can rise," Blair, his voice breaking with emotion, said after a remembrance service at the memorial. "This is my second visit here," he wrote in the guest book. "I have never forgotten the first time. I shall never forget this. The torment and anguish of the Jewish people in the Holocaust are the most vivid expressions of suffering humanity has ever known, but your courage, determination, and essential dignity through this agony also describes humanity's best chances of hope for the future. We shall never forget, and if we do we will repeat the mistakes and tragedies of history."

Protocol flaps a part of diplomacy

First came British Foreign Minister Robin Cook, who managed in one short visit to infuriate Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu by his visit to Har Homa and antagonize much of the nation by passing up a visit to Yad Vashem in order to lay a wreath in memory of Arabs killed at Deir Yassin.

And now comes British Prime Minister Tony Blair, not at all suspect of the visceral anti-Israel reflex associated with Cook.

But before the man even stepped off the plane at Ben-Gurion Airport, he was involved in two flaps: one over a planned visit to the Rabin High School in Tel Aviv and the other over not planning a visit with Mayor Ehud Olmert in Jerusalem.

What is it about the visits of British dignitaries? Do we unrealistically expect them to walk on eggshells around our sensitivities, or are they simply insensitive to our needs?

Avraham "Abrasha" Tamir knows about setting up these types of visits. A widely respected strate-

gic planner who once headed the IDF's Planning Division, Tamir served as director general of the Prime Minister's Office in 1984-1986, when Shimon Peres was the occupant, and also director-general of the Foreign Ministry from 1986-1989, when Peres moved there as part of the national unity government rotation.

Although Tamir was closely associated with Peres in the past, he supported Netanyahu in the last elections.

Tamir has seen heads of states come and go, and said that the flaps surrounding the recent visits of the British politicians are not unique.

"During all the periods that I was involved, these types of visits were always very sensitive," he said. "Let's not forget that people coming here have different opinions from us on a number of issues."

The key, he said, is to make sure that these difference of opinion are not manifest in the itinerary.

In other words, he said, knowing that most of the world does not recognize Israel's sovereignty

IN CONTEXT

By HERB KEINON

over east Jerusalem or the Golan Heights, the practice is generally not to arrange tours of these sites. "There are ways to find solutions to these problems beforehand so they don't arise," he said.

Tamir said the details of these trips are drawn up in the Prime Minister's Office, with much input from the Foreign Ministry and from the office of the visitor.

Protocol flaps do not arise only with the British, or with the Europeans, Tamir said. "There is also tension when American dignitaries come," he said. "Let's not be naïve."

It is necessary, Tamir said, to split the visits into two parts: the ceremonial part of the visit, the protocol, and the substance of the visit.

"It is safe to assume that if the British prime minister is coming here, he is coming to express his

opinion, and disagreements will come to the fore. He is not coming to tell the prime minister what he told him in London a few weeks ago. There is also the media aspect; he wants the message to get across to the Israeli public."

This creates a degree of sensitivity, Tamir said, and both sides must be aware of it. "The visitor needs to be careful not to make mistakes that will damage his stand in Israeli public opinion and detract from what he has to say."

Cook, Tamir said, broke the rules by refusing to visit Yad Vashem and by the tone of his visit to Har Homa that implied that he does not recognize Israeli sovereignty over east Jerusalem.

By the same token, he said, Israel has to refrain from placing on the agenda flaps that would make the visitor feel uncomfortable.

"We should not take matters that are in a disagreement and bring them up," he said. "If you know that the diplomatic side of these visits starts in disagreement, and will end with disagreement, you want to ensure

that at least on the organizational level there should be no disagreements, but rather try to create a program agreed upon by everyone."

"Each side has to play by the rules of ceremony and abide by the protocol - and all controversial issues, at least in the itinerary, should be avoided."

Regarding the mini-flap over a visit reportedly planned to a high school in Tel Aviv named after Yitzhak Rabin, that was allegedly taken off the itinerary at the behest of someone in the Prime Minister's Office, Tamir said he cannot imagine that the prime minister "would be worried politically if Blair would visit a school bearing Rabin's name. I don't believe this, especially since a visit to Rabin's grave is on the agenda."

"Generally, what happens in a case like this is that some functionality in the Prime Minister's Office initiates something that he thinks the prime minister would want. If that is what happened, it was not a wise thing to do."

Labor: PM's Office obstructing Blair's homage to Rabin

By MICHAEL YUDELMAN

The Labor Party yesterday blasted the Prime Minister's Office's handling of British Prime Minister Tony Blair's visit, and alleged it was trying to prevent his paying respects to the late prime Yitzhak Rabin.

"The decision not to let Blair visit the Rabin High School is regrettable and indicates a recurring tendency of the Prime Minister's Office to erase Rabin's memory," party secretary-general Ra'anan Cohen charged.

Labor leader Ehud Barak called the handling of Blair's visit "scandalous" and said it was based on motives which cannot be accepted.

Last week the Prime Minister's Office made an effort to prevent Blair's plan to lay a wreath on Rabin's tomb, with Leah Rabin and Labor leaders Barak and Shimon Peres. Blair, accompanied by his wife Cherie, did lay a wreath at the grave yesterday.

The British Embassy had requested that Blair visit the Rabin High School in Tel Aviv to pay respect to Rabin, and the event had been scheduled in advance, sources close to Barak said yesterday after looking into the issue.

However, when senior assistants of Netanyahu's heard of this

they objected strongly, demanding the British cancel the visit. The British gave in and changed Blair's itinerary, the sources said.

Rabin said she could not comprehend the narrow-mindedness and disrespectful behavior which prevented Blair's visit to the school.

According to Ma'ariv, a British official said a senior official in Netanyahu's office told the British: "Isn't it enough that you're laying a wreath on Rabin's grave?"

Netanyahu's communications adviser David Bar-Ilan yesterday denied any knowledge of anyone in the Prime Minister's Office intervening or acting to cancel Blair's visit to the school.

Batsheva Tsor adds: Families of the Israeli soldiers missing in action since the Lebanon War yesterday expressed their anger over Blair's failure to meet with them.

"We feel frustration," said Yona Baumei, father of Zachary Baumei who has been missing since 1982. A spokesman for the Coalition of Israeli MIAs said that the British Embassy had first postponed and then cancelled the meeting which, he said, had been scheduled for last night. "They said that Blair had no time," spokesman Daniel Grissaro said, "but he has plenty of time to spend with the Palestinians."

PALESTINIAN PRESS REVIEW

Deir Yassin

Deir Yassin was remembered on April 10 with a demonstration at the site of the destroyed village, now part of the Givat Shaul industrial zone.

Quoting Menahem Begin, Azmi Khawaja writes in *Al-Ayyam* that the operation, led by IZL, took place in coordination with the Stern gang and the Palmach.

In describing the event in detail, Khawaja writes that the Arabs at the time made a mistake. Instead of stressing the courage and steadfastness of the villagers, they spread a story of tears; as a result, people from nearby villages fled, fearing they were next.

Quoting Israeli sources, Khawaja concludes that the operation meant to create facts on the ground before

the British left the country, a policy which still prevails, as "they try to impose facts on the ground... to be used later in negotiations with the Palestinians."

Return to roots

The Palestinian national soul-searching should include more than commemorating the Nakba, or national tragedy, says Talal Okal in *Al-Ayyam*, who calls for a return to traditional dress, which is a means to keep and shape the national identity.

Okal complains that on holidays and special occasions, one rarely sees anyone in traditional dress.

"All peoples are proud of their national... dress, in some cases even heads of state, wear them on national occasions; the Palestinian

people need this tradition more than other peoples."

For most people it is not convenient to dress this way in daily life. "It is possible, however, to ask at least the older people, men and women... to dress according to tradition."

The claim that it is too expensive is false, as modern clothes are very expensive, Okal adds.

Here vs. there

The peace treaty in Northern Ireland was welcomed in the Palestinian press, with the expected comparison to the Israeli-

Palestinian conflict.

On the eve British Prime Minister Tony Blair's visit to the region, Ali al-Khalili, writing in *Al-Quds* hopes that he brings with him the experience needed to settle the Palestinian problem.

Where Blair spends his night is not important, even if he changed his mind about staying overnight in Gaza because of Israeli pressure, writes Maher Othman in *Al-Quds*. "More important is the active role the head of a state... which holds the European Union presidency, may fulfill to end the conflict in the region."

A short history of the Irish conflict is provided by Hani Habib in

Al-Ayyam "not to remind us of history, but to find a great similarity between the Irish problem and the Arab problem, especially in Palestine and Lebanon."

By MICHAEL SELA

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Prisons Service probes Vanunu interview

By BAT SHEVA TSUR

Prison authorities are investigating how nuclear spy Mordechai Vanunu succeeded in relaying answers to questions posed by the *Sunday Times*, which published an interview with him two days ago.

Vanunu was jailed after he sold Israeli nuclear secrets to that paper in 1986. He had been held in solitary confinement since 1987 and only recently received permission to mix with other inmates.

Vanunu could face punishment following the most recent interview with the *Sunday Times*, which did not receive official sanction. A Prisons Service spokeswoman said last night that "if our investigation finds him guilty, he will face disciplinary steps, including stripping him of some of his privileges."

Prison officials speculated yesterday that Vanunu may have answered questions posed by his brother Asher, who met him recently in Shikma Prison near Ashkelon.

Two British politicians who went to the prison yesterday in the hope of meeting Vanunu were not granted entry, despite an hour-long wait outside the prison gates. However, they later were able to leave a petition asking for a presidential pardon at Beit Hanassi for President Ezer Weizman. They gave the petition, signed by 700 international figures, to Weizman's director-general Aryeh Shumer during a meeting with him.

The joint vice-chairmen of the Human Rights Groups of the British Parliament and House of Lords, Labor MP Jeremy Corbyn and Lord Avebury, made a special whirlwind trip here in the hope of securing Vanunu's release. They were accompanied by actress Susannah York, who has been in the vanguard of the fight for the spy's release.

It would be an extraordinary gesture on the part of Israel to release Vanunu now," said Corbyn to reporters, outside Beit Hanassi. He said the request was tied to Israel's 50th anniversary and to the visit of British Prime Minister Tony Blair.

Vanunu's case is due to come up before the prison parole board on Wednesday, as he has served two-thirds of his 18-year sentence. The British activists have written to the board as well.

In the *Sunday Times* interview, Vanunu said he wants to leave Israel as soon as he is released. He said decided to betray Israel's nuclear secrets from "deep internal conviction, and I would do it all again."

"I think I was brave," he said. "I was the only individual who ever stood up to the entire Israeli establishment to say what I believed. I acted out of concern for this society, even though Israel likes to portray me as public enemy No. 1."

Vanunu portrayed himself as a dedicated, but deeply misunderstood and abused patriot.

"I wanted to save the population of Israel from the disaster of a nuclear war, and they turned me into a traitor and a spy. There was no proportion between my act and my punishment."

Vanunu said Shin Bet officials had offered to end his isolation in jail five years ago if he agreed not to discuss nuclear weapons or the circumstances of his capture.

"Get out of this cell," Vanunu said he told them. "I am not interested. Do what you want, because I shall have no dealings with you. You have put me in here and you can take me



The joint vice-chairmen of the Human Rights Groups of the British Parliament, Labor MP Jeremy Corbyn (right) and Lord Avebury, and actress Susannah York display the petition demanding Mordechai Vanunu's release in front of Beit Hanassi yesterday.

(Isaac Harari)

out. But I will not forgo my right to say that I was kidnapped and that you broke the law."

of Vanunu's release would not be raised during Blair's visit here.

Douglas Davis contributed to this report from London.

Edelstein: Discuss Pollard with Cohen

By BAT SHEVA TSUR

The government should take advantage of the visit of US Secretary of Defense William Cohen to raise the issue of releasing convicted spy Jonathan Pollard, Absorption Minister Yuli Edelstein said yesterday.

Cohen is a key figure in securing a presidential pardon for Pollard, since resistance to such a move is coming from Naval Intelligence where Pollard worked before he was convicted, Edelstein pointed out.

Meanwhile, increased efforts are being made to work out a formula over the Pollard petition to the High Court of Justice, as the deadline imposed by the court approaches. The state was given until May 2 to show why it should not acknowledge Pollard as an Israeli agent.

Yitzhak Oren, a diplomat at the embassy in Washington, is due to meet Pollard today, after spending the past few days in Jerusalem trying to work out a formula that will satisfy his demand for unequivocal recognition while bearing in mind requests from security circles for only partial acknowledgment of his role.

Pollard had earlier rejected an Israeli formula which did not unequivocally recognize him as an agent. Oren is believed to have worked out a new and more explicit formula with cabinet secretary Dan Naveh, who reportedly received telephone approval of the text from Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu.

The state, which is anxious to avoid a court case where witnesses will have to testify, is now closer to meeting Pollard's proposals for wording the text, a source said. In that case, Pollard is expected to withdraw his petition when the court reconvenes.

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Massala calls for airlift of 4,000 Ethiopian Jews

By ARYEH DEAN COHEN

The time has come for efforts to be made to bring the 4,000 Jews living in Quara, a remote region in Gondar in northwestern Ethiopia, to Israel, MK Adisu Massala (Labor) declared yesterday.

Massala sent a message to the Jews in Quara over the weekend via Ambassador to Ethiopia Avi Granot, telling them that the Ethiopian community here would fight for them to be brought here and would not forget them.

Massala said that an agreement had been reached with the previous absorption minister, Yair Tzaban, that after the Falash Mura were brought here, efforts would begin to bring these Jews to Israel.

The last 700 Falash Mura at the transit camp in Addis Ababa are due to arrive here by Independence Day, meaning the time has come, Massala said. Massala said that he has a list of all of the villagers, who are all Jews and eligible to immigrate here under the Law of Return.

"If the government fails to do so, we will organize a mass demonstration opposite the prime minister's office, demanding that steps be taken to bring them here as quickly as possible under the Law of Return," he said.

Quara lies on the border with Sudan, and 7,000 Jews lived there

during the time of 1991's Operation Solomon. Massala explained. They did not go to Addis Ababa at the time because of the distance and the short time they had to make the journey, he said.

But with the change in the Ethiopian government and the resumption of immigration to Israel, Ethiopian Jewish groups here demanding that they be brought here.

Since Operation Solomon, some 3,000 Jews from the region have come here, and live today in Rehovot, Yavne, Ramle, Ashdod, Gedera, and other towns. Of the remaining 4,000, some 2,000 have left their villages and now are in the city of Gondar, while the rest remain in the villages.

"They are our brethren, and no Israeli government can separate us. We will fight for their right to immigrate here and be united with us, and while the Israeli government has left them behind, they have always been in our thoughts, now more than ever."

Meanwhile, MK Ophir Pines is reportedly seeking a special meeting of the Knesset Immigration and Absorption Committee to discuss the direct absorption of Falash Mura in Ofra as part of plans to absorb them in settlements over the Green Line.

The first group of Falash Mura arrived in Ofra directly from Be'er

MKs move against Lebanon pullback

By MICHAEL YUDELMAN

MKs Uzi Landau (Likud) and Efraim Sneh (Labor) yesterday formed the Security for the North movement, whose goal is to prevent a unilateral withdrawal from Lebanon.

The launching was hosted by Kiryat Shmona Mayor Haim Barbevali, with the support of several mayors and council heads

from border settlements.

The movement's action will be based on three principles: The IDF is the only reliable defense element; Syria is responsible for the goings on in Lebanon; the residents of southern Lebanon and the South Lebanese Army are loyal partners with whom good neighborly relations must be cultivated.

Landau accused the Four Mothers movement and MK Yossi

Beilin, who are pushing unilateral withdrawal, of causing grave damage to the country's image and power of deterrence.

"The main issue here is security for northern residents, not withdrawal in itself," Sneh said. "Our presence in south Lebanon is a means, not an end."

He warned against the cabinet's decision to accept Resolution 425 and said it could be very danger-

ous. "Running away is no solution and will not bring security to the North. The cabinet's proposal must be scrutinized carefully by realistic criteria, for I suspect it is merely a propaganda move. Why didn't former prime ministers Yitzhak Rabin and Shimon Peres accept Resolution 425? Were they against peace? No, because it's a resolution based on a lie, that the Lebanese army and government

can assume responsibility for the region," Sneh said.

Commenting on Beilin's plan for a unilateral withdrawal, Sneh said that "where there's an enemy, you either fight it or reach an agreement. Playing with a make believe arrangement and acting like an ostrich is no solution. You cannot detach the Lebanon issue from the wider context, which is the dispute with Syria and Iran."



Mayoral jockeying at Mimouna

Jerusalem mayoral candidate Shimon Shetreet (second from left) joins Mimouna celebrants in the capital's Sacher Park yesterday. Some 20,000 people gathered in the park for the celebrations.

(Brian Hendler)

Matza to seek retreat from health-tax hike plan

By JUDY SEGEL

Health Minister Yehoshua Matza is expected to try to persuade Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu, when the two visit Central Europe this week, to retreat from the government's plan to charge extra fees to finance the health funds' deficits.

According to ministry sources, although Matza presented this program last month, he is not happy with it and does not think it can pass the Knesset Finance Committee in its present form.

He is also reportedly concerned of the backlash it could have against the Likud in the Knesset elections, which are scheduled to take place a few days after the fees are to go into effect.

Matza prefers either an increase in the health tax, or a higher income ceiling for health tax payments, or both.

The government plan, aimed at reducing the more than NIS 1.4 billion operational deficit in the national health insurance system, would slash health fund spending by NIS 600 million a year.

Of the remaining sum the government would give NIS 300 million while the public would pay NIS 150 million over the upcoming six months. The rest of the deficit would be passed on to next year.

Since the government has refused to raise taxes on income, additional health "payments" would be charged by each health fund. Every adult would pay NIS 20 a month, plus NIS 5 for each child. The fourth child and beyond would be exempt. The poor would also be exempt.

There would also be a NIS 20 fee per quarter for visits to a health fund doctor who is not the patient's primary physician, plus a NIS 20 fee for visiting a hospital outpatient clinic. The ceiling for these direct taxes would be NIS 140 to NIS 160. Prescription drugs are due to be hiked by 30%.

Drowned immigrant boy is buried

By ARYEH DEAN COHEN

Dressed in brand new clothes and shoes as is the custom in his native Ukraine, 10-year-old Sergei Porpotsky, who drowned at a Bat Yam beach Saturday, two days after immigrating here, was buried yesterday.

Family members dressed Sergei in the new clothes before he was buried at Kibbutz Einat, near Petah Tikva, in a cemetery where non-Jewish immigrants are buried.

Ruth Bar-On, executive director of the Israel Crisis Management Center (Sela), part of the Israel Public Council for Soviet Jewry, which helps immigrants in crisis situations, and which helped the Porpotsky family arrange the funeral, said family members told her at the ceremony "how much Sergei had wanted to come to Israel."

The family arrived in Israel early Thursday, but had not gone through initial absorption procedures because of Pessah. Instead, they had gone to stay with relatives, Bar-On said.

The first two days he was in Israel, relatives told her, Sergei talked of nothing but going to the sea. "It came here to go to the beach and sea," he told them, but they advised him to wait until after Pessah. On Saturday, they finally agreed to take him to the

Bat Yam beach.

Bar-On said contrary to reports, Sergei knew how to swim, but may have misjudged the treacherous surf. She said that there is a "high percentage" of new immigrants among drowning victims.

Asked why signs posted in Russian advising bathers of the danger at the beach had been ignored in several drowning cases, she said: "In Russia, people are not used to paying attention to signs." She said the feeling of euphoria felt by new immigrants on their initial arrival also led many of them to ignore such warnings. She suggested new immigrants be given brochures explaining such potential dangers.

As for Sergei's parents, Alexander and Valentina, Bar-On said her organization "will be part of their lives for some time to come." She said the organization would help them pay for a tombstone, and assist them in any other way it can, including grief counseling.

"So many of these immigrants come here looking for a better life for their children," she said. "When one loses a child, it's a terrible tragedy, but when it comes so shortly after you've arrived here, and you've come to give your child a better life, it's a double tragedy."

Agency attempts to increase aliya from S. Africa

By ARYEH DEAN COHEN

Aliya from South Africa is "a failure," both of the community and Zionist educational institutions there, and urgent steps must be taken to make the option of immigrating here more attractive to South African Jewry, Jewish Agency Chairman Avraham Burg said yesterday.

Speaking at an agency meeting discussing a recent campaign aimed at improving the immigration rate from South Africa, Burg said the South African community had been blessed with an educational infrastructure that was highly Zionist and Israel-oriented.

But "the most advanced Hebrew schools around the world" had not resulted in aliya, Burg said.

"When the gates of South Africa were opened half a decade ago, and this Jewish community was on the move, after a century of stabilized Jewish life there, the tidal wave of immigrants immigrated to English-speaking countries, and did not come to Israel," he noted.

Burg said this might mean that Israel is "not yet an attractive model when people seek a spiritual, existential, and physical alternative when they are uprooted themselves from one place and want to root themselves in another place."

He said too many Jews around the world still regard Israel as simply a refuge for refugees.

"If a real change in the pattern of immigration from South Africa to Israel occurs, it will be a role model for the rest of the Western

world," Burg added.

Ambassador Uri Oren, speaking from Johannesburg, said of the 2,000-2,500 Jews leaving South Africa annually, only 350-400 come to Israel. Most choose Australia, New Zealand, Canada or the US, he said.

He suggested improving the "basket" provided to new immigrants from all countries from the Southern Hemisphere. This will allow Israel to compete with other destinations, while not

declaring South African Jewry a "community in distress," a step which might anger the South African authorities.

Stanley Siv, of South Africa's Keren Hayesod, said the lure of the other countries is that English is spoken there, and that no army service is required. South African Jews are also worried about the security situation here, he said.

South Africans still prefer to go from a difficult, dangerous society, to somewhere a little more open."

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Litter campaign lost in hiker's garbage

By LIAT COLLINS

The Environment Ministry's clean-up campaign launched last week under the slogan "I've changed. I've stopped littering" seems to have been thrown out the window along with the rest of the garbage hikers left behind over Pessah.

Environment Minister Rafael Eitan said that although the level of cleanliness in the 60 nature reserves and national parks visited by some 300,000 people during the holiday was reasonable, there was much room for improvement at sites which do not demand an entrance fee. These were visited by an estimated 400,000 people.

Eitan said he was concerned about a new phenomenon seen over this holiday of people burning their waste. The Union of Local Authorities in Israel noted yesterday that the municipalities had removed 167,000 tons of garbage over Pessah at a cost of NIS 184 million. ULAI head Adi Eldar said that in a regular week the local authorities remove some 85,000 tons.

Following the unusually high number of hikers who called out rescue teams over the holiday, Eitan said he will create regulations requiring those rescued to foot the bill. He is scheduled today to meet with the legal advisers of the Nature Protection and National Parks Authority to discuss how to do this. Rescue teams were called out 31 times during Pessah at a very high cost to the state.

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- Bezeq does not undertake to accept the lowest bid or any, or to place the entire order with one bidder.
- Bids submitted by fax or cable will not be accepted.



Russian President Boris Yeltsin (right) hugs Japanese Prime Minister Ryutaro Hashimoto as they bid good-bye in Kawana, west of Tokyo, yesterday. After two rounds of unofficial meetings with Hashimoto, Yeltsin left for home. (AP)

Yeltsin, Hashimoto leave island dispute unresolved

KAWANA, Japan (Reuters) - Russian President Boris Yeltsin and Japanese Prime Minister Ryutaro Hashimoto yesterday ended a summit that kept an improvement in relations firmly on track but still left unresolved a World War II territorial dispute.

The summit showed that Yeltsin, written off by many of his compatriots as too old, erratic and out of touch to lead Russia much longer, is still a powerful force to be reckoned with.

Looking relaxed and healthy, the 67-year-old president found time to fish, energetically play traditional Japanese drums and kiss a young bride when the two leaders dropped in on a wedding reception at the hotel where the summit was held.

"The president is in great form," Russia's First Deputy Prime Minister Boris Nemtsov told reporters.

Unlike on other recent foreign trips, Yeltsin's aides did not have to scramble to correct any presidential gaffes, and the Kremlin chief also made no embarrassing breaches of protocol.

There was no mistaking the personal warmth between the two embattled leaders during their two days of talks in one of Japan's most prestigious seaside resorts, and they produced enough mainly symbolic agreements to declare the meeting a success.

They kept momentum going in trying to solve the territorial issue by each putting forward a new proposal to be considered in negotiations to formally end World War II hostilities by signing a peace treaty by the year 2000.

A treaty has been held up for 53 years by Japan's demand that Russia return four islands that Soviet forces captured at the end of the war.

Known as the Southern Kuriles by Russia and the Northern Territories by Japan, they are located off the tip of Japan's northernmost main island of Hokkaido.

"In our personal relationship we already have a peace treaty," Yeltsin told a joint news conference with Hashimoto on the lawn of the hotel.

"There is no going backwards in our relations," Hashimoto said. "The walls between us [Yeltsin and Hashimoto] have come down because we have become very close."

But the nagging fear at the end of Yeltsin's visit was that Russia would not fulfill Japan's cherished hope of getting back the four disputed islands and Tokyo would fail to deliver what Moscow needs in the form of investment.

The clouds appeared when Nemtsov, widely seen as a future presidential hopeful, said economic relations needed to develop before discussion of territorial claims.

"It's quite clear that until economic relations have reached a certain level, it is simply impossible to make a decision on any political issue," Nemtsov told reporters. "Opinions on the territorial dispute in Japan and Russia are diametrically

opposed, so it will be hard to find a compromise quickly."

His comments contrasted with Japan's position that returning the islands was Tokyo's first and foremost condition for completing a peace treaty.

In Saturday's talks, Yeltsin made his new proposal in the maneuvering over the islands, suggesting that the two nations sign a wider agreement than just a simple peace treaty.

Hashimoto refused to reveal the content of his proposal, but he described it as "serious."

Yeltsin said Japan and Russia were now heading down a path of serious economic help that could only do them both good.

He urged Japanese carmakers to

consider building a manufacturing plant in the Moscow region, assuring them that Russians would line up to buy Japanese cars.

The two leaders announced a plan to jointly cut greenhouse gas emissions in Russian plants in what energy specialists said was believed to be the first time any two countries had agreed "joint implementation efforts" in line with a pact reached at a landmark UN conference on the issue in the Japanese city of Kyoto in December.

"I am convinced that things will go very well... There will be a substantive, economic, strategic partnership between these two great powers," a relaxed-looking Yeltsin said.

China frees, exiles Wang Dan

Dissident was leader in Tiananmen Square protests

BEIJING (Reuters) - China freed a leader of the 1989 Tiananmen Square democracy protests and sent him into exile in the US yesterday, just two months ahead of a visit by US President Bill Clinton.

The release of Wang Dan from prison on medical parole had been widely expected as a goodwill gesture linked to Clinton's visit in late June.

Wang, 29, was serving an 11-year sentence for plotting to overthrow the government. His family had urged him to accept exile in return for freedom as his health declined.

The US welcomed the release. "This is something we have been urging them to do for quite some time, and it is a positive sign," said White House spokesman Eric Rubin, who is part of Clinton's entourage at the Summit of the Americas in Santiago, Chile.

China's most famous dissident, Wei Jingsheng, was freed in November after the last China-US summit in Washington and sent to the US for medical treatment.

Human rights groups welcomed the latest release, but complained that China is masking continuing rights abuses by playing a cynical

political game ahead of Clinton's visit. They urged the release of all prisoners of conscience.

Beijing calculates that in exile the voices of its troublesome opponents will be drowned out.



Wang Dan

(AP file photo)

and the moral authority they enjoyed in jail will fade.

With Wei and now Wang gone, China's fractious dissident community has lost the last of its leaders of international stature.

Wang left his prison in northeast Liaoning province on Saturday

after medical checks and was driven to Beijing during the night with his parents, who had been summoned from the capital, according to his mother, Wang Lingyun.

A Hong Kong-based human rights group said he was on board Northwest Airlines flight NW88, which left at 8:55 a.m. bound for Detroit.

"He said he wanted to get medical treatment and further his studies," Wang Lingyun said. "But he also said he hoped to return one day to his own country."

Wang was on China's most wanted list after the Tiananmen Square protests were crushed by army machine-guns, with heavy loss of life, on June 3 and 4, 1989.

He was arrested in a nationwide dragnet and jailed for four years.

Upon his release, he continued to speak out for greater political freedom and democracy, and he was detained again in 1995. A Beijing court sentenced him to 11 years in prison in October 1996.

"He seemed quite calm," said Wang Lingyun, speaking from her Beijing home after seeing off her son at the airport with her husband, daughter, and granddaughter.

But she said Wang Dan coughing badly and suffering headaches.

Washington had pressed for release ahead of the president's summit, in which human rights will be a top item on the agenda.

"It's good news for Wang Dan, an individual, except that it's again it's a release conditional exile," said Catherine Babe. Hong Kong-based researcher China for Amnesty International Baber said more than 2,000 people are in prison in China counter-revolutionary crime: even though such crimes had been struck from Chinese statute books.

"Sending political prisoners other countries does not mean human rights conditions in China have improved. It's only a change of strategy," said Han Dongfang, Chinese labor activist who lives in Hong Kong.

"As a responsible citizen, if I want to criticize China, you have two choices: either you sent to jail or you have to leave country," Han said.

The Hong Kong-based Information Center of Human Rights and Democratic Movement said a statement "Wang Dan was as a hostage to be released at Clinton's visit."

Pope invites Chinese bishops to synod

VATICAN CITY (Reuters) - Pope John Paul yesterday said he had invited two bishops from communist China, whose government does not recognize his authority, to attend a Vatican synod and said he hoped they could attend.

The Vatican said the bishops, both of them elderly, were loyal to the pope but according to UCA News, which specializes in Chinese Catholic affairs, the position of at least one of the prelates is also recognized by Beijing's communist government.

The 77-year-old pope, who has often appealed to the Chinese government to legalize the underground Catholic Church and allow its members to worship openly, made his disclosure during the opening of a synod of bishops from Asia.

During the month-long synod, its some 250 participants will discuss the future of the Catholic Church in Asia, where it is a tiny minority in nearly all countries.

The opening ceremony of the synod in St. Peter's Basilica brought a taste of Asian culture inside the fresco-covered walls of Christendom's largest church.

The mass was held in languages spoken in Malaysia, Vietnam, India, China, Indonesia, the Philippines, and Sri Lanka and included slow dancing by women wearing saris and bearing incense.

The chanting of four Asian choirs blended with the traditional Latin voices of the Sistine Chapel singers.

But the political beam of the pope's sermon concentrated on China, one of the few countries in the world which does not recognize the Vatican diplomatically and which does not let its faithful recognize the pope as their spiritual leader.

The pope named the two Chinese prelates he invited to the synod as Bishop Matthias Duan Yinming and his assistant, Bishop Joseph Xu Zhixuan, both of the city of Wanhien.

"I hope that they will be able to take their places among us and bear witness to the vitality of those communities," the pope said in English during his sermon.

"It is precisely to the Catholics of mainland China and to their pastors that the thoughts of all of

us go at this moment," the pope said.

Duan is listed in the Vatican directory as being 90 years old and having been made a bishop by Pope Pius XII in 1949, the year of the communist victory in China.

Xu is not listed in the Vatican directory but is believed to be 82 years old and to have been consecrated a bishop by Duan.

According to UCA News, both have carried out their functions openly in recent years.

The official government-backed Chinese Catholic Church, which does not recognize the pope and appoints its own bishops, has some four million members, but Church organizations say as many as eight million meet underground.

The Vatican in turn does not recognize bishops appointed by the official church.

When the pope named 22 new cardinals in February, he kept two of them "in pectore," or a secret, a procedure intended to protect prelates working in hostile conditions. Many Church observers believe at least one may be from China.

Earlier this month, the Vatican's

foreign minister, Arch. Jean-Louis Tauran, said: "See was nowhere near negotiating relations with China; such a move was not a priority."

Human rights groups in the Chinese government cracked down on worship official religious circles, a lions risk police house arrest by attending "house churches" in homes.

In his sermon open synod, the pope said the Church had to pay "attention" to Asian realities. "This vast continent, rich in history and age-old wisdom, is in the dawn of the millennium with all the variety of its cultures, its traditions, religions," he said.

"Alongside the heretofore ancient civilizations, we signs of truly advanced technical and economic progress."

There exists a notable difference between peoples, cultures of living. And yet, been a long tradition of coexistence and mutual aid," he said.

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A business delegation composed of Maltese Companies operating in the following industry sectors is seeking to make personal contact with Israeli companies:

- Waste management, Waste water treatment
- Solid waste management, Waste recycling
- Health care services, Medical equipment, Gerontology
- Pre-natal clothing & Maternity accessories, Babies wear
- Telecommunications, Telecommunication training services
- IT, Multimedia, Educational interactive software, PC-based training
- Radio remote controls for heavy duty machinery and equipment
- Pure vegetable oleochemicals, Personal care products
- Hand-crafted time pieces & Wrist watches
- Wire, Steel wire products, Steel fabrication
- Financial services
- Advice for Investment in Malta

The Maltese companies will be in Israel between the 26th and 27th April, 1998 and will be looking to meet Israeli companies interested in: Joint Ventures, Franchising Arrangements, Co-Production and/or Sub-Contracting, Transfers of Technology, Reciprocal Marketing Arrangements, and various other strategic alliances and partnerships.

Interested Israeli companies are cordially invited to meet the representatives of the Maltese companies. Private one-to-one meetings can be arranged by contacting Ms. Iris Gamaro in Tel Aviv on Tel: (03) 6473350 / (051) 246938 or Fax: (03) 6295189. The meetings will be held at the Dan Panorama Hotel, Tel Aviv.

For more information please contact:

Ms. Iris Gamaro

Tel Aviv, Israel

Tel: (03) 6473350 / (051) 246938

Fax: (03) 6295189

or

Ms. Charmaine Hogan

Malta External Trade Corporation

Malta

Tel: (+356) 497560 Fax: (+356) 441106, 496687

This event is organized by the Malta External Trade Corporation (METCO), in conjunction with the Euro Info Correspondence Centre (EICC), and with the support of the Israel Export Institute, the Federation of Israeli Chambers of Commerce, the Manufacturers Association of Israel and Bank of Valetta (Malta).

ISRAEL ELECTRIC TENDERS

Tender No. 652172
Subject: Supply of Office Equipment
Payment for the above tender: NIS 1030 (including VAT)
First Stage: Supply of technical/commercial data, without prices.
Period of Commitment: Two years, with possibility of extension for an additional year.

Tender No. 655289
Subject: Channel Poles & Extensions (Specifications): 02-2E, K77/3kat, 2580/7kat, 2572/6kat.
Payment for the above tender: NIS 1980 (including VAT).
First Stage: Supply of technical/commercial data without prices.
Period of Commitment: Two years, with possibility of extension for an additional year.

Tender No. 652175
Subject: Supply of Envelopes for Electricity Bills
First Stage - Supply of technical/commercial data, without prices.
Payment for tender documents: NIS 1030 (including VAT).
Period of Commitment: One year, with possibility of extension for an additional two years.

Preliminary Conditions:

- The bidder must supply 2000 sample envelopes (without graphic design) which will be used for trials on the Electric Corporation's wrapping machines.
- The samples should be submitted not later than the last date for submission of bids to the Operations and Control Department at the Computer Center in Tel Aviv. For coordination and technical queries contact Mr. Sarah Shapir, Tel. 03-567-8974.

Last date for submission of bids for the above tenders: May 17, 1998 at 11 a.m.

Tender No. 658180
Subject: Supply of In-line Heat Shrinkable Joints for Plastic High Tension Cables.
Payment for the above tender: NIS 1830 (including VAT).
First Stage: Submission of technical/commercial data, without prices.
Period of Commitment: Two years, with possibility of extension for an additional year.

Preliminary Conditions:

- The bidder must submit type test certificates filled out in accordance with the specification requirements.
- The bidder must submit three samples of each item offered for the tender, in accordance with the specification requirements.
- The bidder must present the manufacturer's ISO 9001 certificates.

The samples should be submitted not later than the last date for submission of bids to the Network Electrical Planning Department, Underground Network Unit of the National Power Grid, Huz No. 7, at the Haifa Power Station, for the attention of Mr. Ron Wornheim. For coordination and technical queries call 04-888-8916.

The last date for submission of bids for the above tender: May 24, 1998 at 11 a.m.

Further Preconditions for Participation (in addition to those given above):

- The tender is also subject to complying with the preliminary conditions detailed in the Tender Regulations 1993, Para. 6(a) 1, 2, 3 (i.e. registration as required by law, compliance with mandatory specifications, and the holding of the permits required by law for transactions with public bodies).
- The Israel Electric Corporation reserves the right to allow a bidder who has not provided some required relevant documents, permits, licenses, etc. to submit them within a specified time that will be set by the Corporation.

The tender documents may be obtained Sunday - Thursday, at the Market Research and Tenders Department, 11 Sderot Pal-Yam, Haifa, between 9 a.m. and 12 noon, on submission of a receipt, demonstrating payment (non-refundable) for the documents into the Corporation's account at the Postal Bank. Payment slips for making such payments are obtainable at the above address by calling 04-888-7454.5. Before purchasing the tender documents, they may be perused, Sunday - Thursday, 9 a.m.-12 noon, at the above offices or at the Sales Department, 90 Rehov Yigal Alon, Tel Aviv, Ashdod Building, entrance C, 1st floor, Tel. 03-565-4679, 03-565-4641.

Bids should be submitted in a sealed envelope and be placed in Tender Box No. 1 in the Pal-Yam Building, Haifa (address as above) by the last date for submitting bids, as stated above.

No understanding is given to accept the lowest or any bid.

NOTE: In appropriate cases, the Electric Corporation will give preference to suppliers in accordance with the Tender Regulations (Preference for Locally Produced Goods, and Obligation to Extend Commercial Cooperation).

The Electric Corporation reserves the right to negotiate, where this is legally permissible.

The tenders can be viewed on the Israel Electric Corporation's Internet site: WWW.ISRAEL-ELECTRIC.CO.IL

The offices will be closed on Remembrance Day for the Fallen of Israel's Wars and Independence Day: April 29 and 30, 1998.

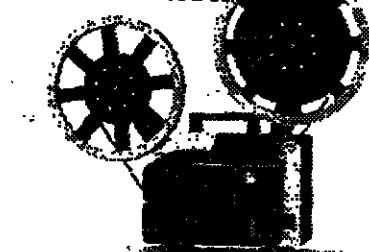
החברים על שירות טוב יותר



'Anastasia' is the first Hollywood feature-length cartoon to be shot in luxurious CinemaScope format in nearly 40 years.

Russian princess as Barbie doll

Movie Review



By Adina Hoffman

After Disney's politically correct, rainbow-and-raccoon-packed reworking of the Native American genocide in *Pocahontas*, and the cuddly overhaul they gave the brutal Greek myth of Hercules, I suppose no bit of crass literary or historical revisionism by a team of clever studio animators should come as a surprise.

But I confess I am still a bit

stunned by *Anastasia* and the lengths to which producer-directors Don Bluth and Gary Goldman (the creators of *Pete's Dragon* and *The Rescuers*, among others) have gone to render their historical tale, a historical, and, to reduce the Russian revolution to nothing

more meaningful or actual than the inspiration for yet another synthetic load of "harmless family entertainment." This is a cartoon fairy tale about the young Romanov princess who lives in perfect happiness and luxury until disaster (i.e. the revolution) strikes. When the rest of her family is killed, she escapes and soon grows up to be an amnesiac orphan with Meg Ryan's voice.

Perhaps it's overstating the point to say that *Anastasia* is a pro-zarist kiddie flick (the film essentially lacks any political consciousness at all - which would be just fine if Bluth and Goldman hadn't picked this particular story for the telling). It does, however, seem rather odd that the revolution manages to take place without a single mention of Communists or Communism. There's a bad guy, of course, in the form of Rasputin, who has the requisite scary disposition (gray skin, detachable limbs, a long whip of a black beard and the menacing voice of Christopher Lloyd) and adorable sidekick (an albino bat named Bartok).

As always in such cartoons the villain lives in a dismal, underworldly place, and plots his revenge on the spirited heroine

ANASTASIA

Directed by Don Bluth and Gary Goldman. Screenplay by Susan Gauthier, Bruce Graham, Bob Tardiff and Nomi White. Lyrics by Lynn Ahrens. Music by Stephen Flaherty. Hebrew title: *Anastasia*. 94 minutes. English dialogue, Hebrew subtitles. (The film also exists in a dubbed Hebrew version.) General audiences.

With the voices of Meg Ryan, John Cusack, Kelsey Grammer, Christopher Lloyd, Bernadette Peters and Angela Lansbury

who frisks around above ground, singing generic doggerel such as "Home, love, family, there was once a time I must have had them, too! Home, love, family, I will never be complete until I find you." She's accompanied on her moon-june-spoon-tineful wanderings by her own trusty pals, Pooka the puppy dog and two friendly crows, the former servant boy Dimitri (John Cusack) and a portly fallen-aristocrat named Vladimir (Kelsey Grammer).

Bluth and Goldman don't work for Disney. *Anastasia* is the first feature from their new Fox

Animation Studios - but they might as well: their inspiration comes from more or less the same goopy source, and they flatten out elaborate historical happenings according to the same absurd formulas.

And aside from the lovely, jewel-box backdrops and richly textured velvet and brocade costumes, their animation suffers from the identical sanitized stiffness that has plagued much of Disney's recent computerized output.

(Although the movie was shot in luxurious CinemaScope format, which hasn't been attempted in cartoon form since *Sleeping Beauty* in 1959, the projectionist at the local theater where I saw the film hadn't yet figured out how to screen it correctly, so I can't comment on the effect of the wide screen photographic process.)

The realistic human figures are especially problematic and prone to kitschification. Anastasia and Dimitri look like a Barbie and Ken doll, with big damp eyes and perfect pectorals and breasts. The more stylized characters, as always, evolve with a bit more charm: Bernadette Peters provides the squealing voice for a volu-

tuous Russian lady-in-waiting, for example, and Rasputin is sometimes amusing. All in all, though, the animators don't do much to milk the cartoon for what it's worth as a cartoon: the musical routines are choreographed in a rigid, proscenium-bound fashion, as if the make-believe dancers were confined to performing on a Broadway stage, and it's easy enough to imagine most of the spoken scenes performed by human actors. (Indeed, much of the inspiration here seems to have come from Anatole Litvak's 1956 live version, starring Ingrid Bergman.)

If I didn't know better, I'd suggest that *Anastasia* is meant to be a joke, a send-up of the current, well, amnesiac cultural climate.

There's something so automatic and tidy about the way the various cartoon mechanisms click into place around the unwieldy shape of complex and bloody real-life events, one wonders. And one tries, at the same time, to squelch the thought of how Tiananmen Square, the Civil Rights movement or the rise of the Ayatollah Khomeini might look if crammed through this same cheesy animation mill. Call me a cynic, but the film makes pap of the past.

Films come alive with the sound of music

By ROGER CATLIN

Titanic has not just dominated box office grosses since December; its sound track has also topped the album charts for three months as it nears 10 million in sales.

But it's just one of two sound track albums in the current Top 10 and one of 13 sound tracks on the *Billboard* 200 chart.

Sound track albums aren't just afterthoughts for filmmakers these days. "Music does matter," director Jonathan Demme said in a panel on the subject in Austin, Texas, last month.

"People's ears are tuned in during a movie just as their eyes are tuned in."

Demme, the award-winning director of *Silence of the Lambs*, has long been associated with music. His next film, *Storefront Hitchcock*, featuring Robyn Hitchcock, is his first concert film since the Talking Heads' 1984 *Stop Making Sense*.

Every bit of music used in a conventional film is important to the overall feel of the work, he told a panel discussion at the South by Southwest Music Conference that dovetailed with the South by Southwest Film Conference.

"I try to talk about what kind of music the characters might be hearing in their daily life," Demme said.

The right song playing on a juke-

box in a key scene is more satisfying than an orchestral score intrud-

ing. "It's just more true, more subtle, and more fun, too," he said.

Demme used more than 90 different pieces of music in *Something Wild*, the freewheeling 1986 road film starring Melanie Griffith, Jeff Daniels and Ray Liotta. "We had a goal of no composing for that film," Demme said. But it didn't quite make it. So John Cale and Laurie Anderson were asked to compose small parts for some scenes.

Sharp period music also set the tone for Richard Linklater's earlier films, such as *Dazed and Confused* and *Suburbia*.

But for his current film, *The Newton Boys*, the Matthew McConaughey-Ethan Hawke movie on 1920s bank robbers, it took a bit of musicology.

"It was fun going through hundreds of songs and picking them out," said Linklater. "Most of them were on 78s, so we knew we wanted to re-record them."

Recording the songs, using mostly the Austin band the Bad Livers, came first. Linklater said. "It was important enough to do before we started shooting."

It wasn't any cheaper to license music from the 1920s. "We thought they'd all be public domain by now," he said, but the copyright on many of the songs would not expire for another couple of years. "And some of the songs were as expensive as the Alice Cooper song I paid for once."

In coming up with music, sooner is better, the directors said. "Editors love to find a piece of music that works with a scene before the



In 'Something Wild' (1986) starring Jeff Daniels and Melanie Griffith, director Jonathan Demme used more than 90 different pieces of music.

scene is cut," Demme said.

Sometimes different films fight over the same piece of music. Linklater said he wanted to use Aerosmith's "Dream On" for a key sequence in an earlier film only to be told that it was being

reserved for a Hollywood blockbuster. "It wasn't until much later, I was watching *Last Action Hero*," he said. "The movie's over, and we're three minutes into the credits, and I hear 'Dream On.'"

Record labels often pressure

directors to use their roster of artists in the movie and on the album. Linklater said. "The worst experience I ever had was when a label tried to force a song to be played over the final credits that I didn't want. It killed the whole record deal," he said.

But the album is always of lesser concern to filmmakers. Demme said he was glad to get Tom Petty's "American Girl" for *The Silence of the Lambs*, though "he refused to let it be on a sound track album."

Both Linklater and Demme pool-pooled the proliferation of sound track albums of music "inspired by" (but not used in) films, and sound track sequels of similar music, as was the case with a second volume of *Boogie Nights*-era music.

Still, each director had ideas for supplemental sound tracks of their own. "I would like to release an album of *Newton Boys* songs we didn't get on the sound track album," Linklater said.

"Because we found so much great music, we could have said 'Music considered for...'"

Demme, who produced the Tom Hanks movie *That Thing You Do!*, had an open solicitation for a '60s-sounding song to use on the sound track and was impressed with the number of variations on the title they received.

"I so much wanted to do an album of other versions of *That Thing You Do!*" Demme said. "I think that would be a fun, valid thing."

(The Hartford Courant)

Music from the depths of our history

"Memory" is the middle name of Israeli society. We do all we can as individuals, as a society, and as a nation, not to forget our past.

Although there have been intellectuals and artists who have clearly told us to disregard our museums and monuments and look forward with hope instead of backward with anger, we thrive on memorial services. They seem to be a kind of reassurance that there is a reason for everything we are doing, that there is a reason for our being here.

Twice a year the people of Israel mourn as a group. In a country in which mourning is a common daily practice, the two national days of remembrance (Holocaust Martyrs' and Heroes' Remembrance Day and Remembrance Day for the Fallen of Israel's Wars) are for some reason devoid of classical music.

Of course there is the obligatory sung Kaddish or the occasional choirs participating. But it seems that on these days we stay

at home and mourn, each in his or her own way, in front of our television screen.

The only question is why the classical music community cannot actively contribute to these remembrance days.

Now don't get me wrong. I am not advocating a series of Holocaust-related concerts to be performed throughout the year. But couldn't our orchestras devote more time and effort to preserve works written during the Holocaust or other works inspired by this most horrible time in human history?

I know that not many music lovers will rush to buy tickets to a concert on Holocaust Remembrance Day when the music is as somber as the overall general atmosphere. But that is no excuse to avoid performing these works altogether.

The Israel Philharmonic Orchestra has pre-

COMMENT

By MICHAEL WEINSTEIN

to perform annually at the official memorial ceremony at Yad Vashem. And if this proves technically unfeasible, then maybe the orchestra should videotape many of these works and televise them within the programs of this day.

The Decca disc company has been recording its own project of "degenerate music" for several years, music banned by the Nazis and usually forgotten, very good music which should be performed in Israel in particular.

There are numerous works that were written during the Holocaust, but unfortunately this music is rarely heard. The IPO and other leading orchestras should do as much as they can to preserve music which was once banned and should never suffer such a fate

again.

Sometimes we in Israel tend to let the Gentiles do all the work for us. But the time has come for some governmental agencies to find the funding for a large national project in which our orchestras will devote their time to this music to make it a major part of our societal consciousness.

It is all too easy to stay at home during Holocaust Remembrance Day, but perhaps the time has come to go to the concert hall on such an evening and confront that period through the great music created back then and not just through movies and poetry readings.

Everybody seems to agree that the Holocaust should always be remembered. Hopefully our musicians, dancers, and theater folk for that matter, will find a way to create a living, breathing torch with which to pay homage to the brave artists of those days so that we may appreciate their artistry and, even more so, the horrible conditions under which it was created.

NEWS

of the muse

By HELEN KAYE

Frankfurt Ballet coming to Tel Aviv

The good news is that William Forsythe's Frankfurt Ballet is coming July 15 for five performances at the Tel Aviv Performing Arts Center. The less good news is that instead of *Eidos Telos*, Forsythe's newest ballet, the company will present an evening of his repertory works, including *Firststep*, which includes choreographies by two of the company's principal dancers, Dana Caspersen and Antony Rizzi. The other works are *Of Any If And* and *Hypothetical Stream*.

General manger to usher NIO into 21st century

The New Israeli Opera general manager has been reconfirmed in her post through 2001. When Uri Ofer, the NIO's founding GM, resigned in 1995, Munitz was grudgingly given a year's trial period which was extended, more enthusiastically, a further two years. Announcing her reappointment, the NIO board praised her artistic and financial management over the last four years, citing in particular the opera's acceptance by a large sector of the general public and its exposure on the international stage.

Ovation for Israelis in Tokyo

The audience at Tokyo's new opera house gave Israelis Daniel Oren and Omri Nitzan a 10-minute whistling, shouting standing ovation last week. The occasion was the premiere of Verdi's opera *Nabucco* conducted by Oren and staged by Nitzan, who's the artistic director of the Cameri theater. The semi-staged production was built around the themes of naked power, symbolized by a clenched fist, versus morality (the 10 Commandments). Nitzan used locally produced video clips to make his points.

"It was more about the oppressor versus the oppressed than the more traditional romance," said Nitzan. He also praised Oren unsparingly, emphasizing that theirs was a joint effort and marveling at "the emotional response he got from the Tokyo Symphony."

Across the Pacific, young composer Gil Shohat has established more than a toehold in the US. The Ra'anana Symphonette debuted his *Concertino for Violin* at Newark's new arts center two weeks ago. The US branch of Ricordi, the Italian publishing house which signed Shohat last year, is said to be interested in promoting his career in the US. Not that he'll have much time because Shohat has commissions through 2002.

Original play wins top prize at EADI Festival

Jodi Schenk's one-act comedy *Once Through* won the Doris Kershner Best Production award for her Guild Theater at the close of the 14th English Drama Festival last week. The production worked beautifully as a whole, said adjudicator Debra Baer-Mozes "and there was harmony among the characters."

The Sharon Players' Martin Roskin and Leslie Steinman shared Best Actor honors for their roles in the hilarious *Albert*, while the prize for Best Director went to Sabrina Mansfield for her direction of *Spring Dance* and *The One Armed Man* for the Jerusalem English Speaking Theater (JEST).

EADI (English Amateur Drama in Israel) is the umbrella organization for 10 local English-language community theaters, established in 1990 by Yanky Fachler, its founding chairman. He is leaving and will be replaced by JEST president Sheldon Klimis.

Honors at Haifa Children's Theater Fest

The Insulted Heart, written and directed by Shira Gefen, won both Best Production and Best Director at the 8th International Haifa Children's Theater festival, which ended last Wednesday. The production also won Best Costume and Set Design.

Best Playwright went jointly to Hanoach Reim and Yoav Barlev for *Bialik 22*, while Ruth Goldberg won Best Actress for the same play. Designer Anat Messner, whose brilliant costumes won the prize last year for *And the Wolf Shall Lie Down with the Lamb*, got honorable mention for *The Letter Mystery*. And for the second year in a row, Moshe Malca and his inspired clowns won the Street Theater category with *Bayziz*. The best productions each received NIS 10,000, while the winning designers got NIS 1,500 each. Despite the fierce heat, some 100,000 people came to the four-day festival and 21,000 of them bought performance tickets.

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William Cohen's agenda

Though today's visit will be his first as US secretary of defense, William Cohen will be welcomed as somewhat of an old friend, as befits the representative of a close strategic partner. Regardless of the bumps in the diplomatic road, military relations between the United States and Israel have never been closer. Washington rightly recognizes that, besides being in America's strategic interest, the tight military ties with Israel provide a critical backdrop without which the peace process could not exist.

Cohen's visit is part of a five-nation swing through the region, originally scheduled for last December. If there is a theme to it, it would seem to be the situation in Iraq, which may have left the headlines but not the concerns of the American defense establishment. In Turkey, Cohen visited the Incirlik air force base, from which over 50 US, Turkish and British aircraft fly out daily to police the "no-fly" zone in northern Iraq.

In Incirlik on Saturday, Cohen sent another volley in America's ongoing battle against the pressure to prematurely lift the sanctions against Saddam Hussein's regime, stating the Iraqi leader has "an obligation to show proof of where, when, how and under what circumstances the materials [to produce weapons of mass destruction] were destroyed ... Until he does that, there should be no lifting of the sanctions."

The fact, however, that Cohen needs to make such statements shows that the fears of many following the latest UN-brokered deal with Iraq are becoming reality - Saddam has succeeded in shifting the international focus toward lifting sanctions.

What Cohen may be hearing in capitals as disparate as Istanbul, Amman, Jerusalem and Cairo is that keeping a lot of firepower parked outside Iraq and relying on UN inspectors may buy time, but it does not constitute an effective policy. The bravest voice in this regard is that of Jordan's King Hussein, who, as a former supporter of Saddam and current neighbor, should be listened to closely.

During a press briefing last month with US Secretary of State Madeleine Albright, Hussein said, speaking of an Iraq freed from Saddam: "I visualize Iraq as a free country, as a democracy, as an example of pluralism ... I hope that the people of Iraq will be able to come together in

dialogue to live in a democracy, which is on the way. That would ensure that Iraq can contribute a positive role to the future of the region. And we'll continue to work for that to the best of our ability."

Backing his words with action the very next day, Hussein met with the leader of Iraq's democratic opposition, Iraqi National Congress President Ahmed Chalabi. Once again, King Hussein has demonstrated what it means to be a leader, in a region fraught with uncertainty.

By contrast, official American support for Chalabi has been tepid at best. In an April 2 speech, all Albright could muster was: "We will explore ways to work more effectively with the Iraqi democratic opposition."

One good way to start would be for President Bill Clinton to meet with Chalabi, thereby opening the door for other leaders in the region - who may not be quite as gutsy as King Hussein - to help the Iraqi National Congress.

It is difficult to fathom why the US seems slavishly attached to a policy, built upon "containment" and UN inspections, that is doomed to failure.

During the 1991 Gulf War, the Bush Administration clearly decided that it would evict Saddam from Kuwait, but was not interested in overthrowing him. Not only would this have been an expansion of the war's objective, but the US was worried about upsetting the regional power balance if post-Saddam Iraq were to break into pieces.

This may have been a rational consideration at the time, but to paraphrase King Hussein, now there is a viable democratic alternative to Saddam. Given the existence of this alternative, supporting it should be considered a strategic and moral imperative.

Much of Cohen's visit will concern the many joint programs that constitute the nuts and bolts of the military relationship. One major agenda item - funding for a third battery of Scud-busting Arrow missiles - is directly related to the missile threat from the east.

Yet security against missile attacks, for example, cannot only be viewed from the narrow perspective of preparing military measures in self-defense. In the case of rogue regimes such as Iraq's, which have violated every international law and norm of civilized behavior, the first line of defense is to help the people of that nation to free themselves.

Don't go too far

YOSEF GOELL

Mimouna, which was celebrated yesterday by many members of the large community of Israeli Jews from Morocco, is a fine example of ethnic folklore.

It was preceded by the Kurdish community's Saharona last week. In recent years, Ethiopian olim have started celebrating their own ethnic holiday, as have the North Americans with their annual soft-ball-cum-picnic bashes.

All of this is fine, as long as it doesn't go too far. Beyond a certain point, an excessive emphasis on the separate ethnic groups that make up our national palette can have a deadly effect on Israel's as-yet-unfinished process of nation-building, which requires the crystallization of a healthy core of shared values, symbols and identity.

The danger of cultural and social fragmentation, as exemplified by the deadly fragmentation of our neighbor to the north, is not a theoretical peril for Israel but a very real threat.

It is worth keeping in mind - as we celebrate 50 years of independent national existence - that most of the Jewish haredim and Israel's Arab minorities, who together make up close to 30 percent of the population, do not share that common core of values, symbols and identity.

When one adds the nearly one million recent immigrants from the former Soviet Union, many of whose cultural elites seem to be developing a separate Russian culture as opposed to assimilating into the Israeli one and influencing it from within, one can begin to appreciate the dangers involved in this renewed emphasis on ethnicity.

Recently, the most worrisome signs in this regard have been coming from the direction of the Ministry of Education and Culture under its new minister, the National Religious Party's Yitzhak Levy. Not long after tak-

ing over from his deceased predecessor, Zevulun Hammer, Levy made a number of declarations regarding the cultural and social "revolution" which he intends to lead from his ministry.

Last week some of this vague talk was given substance, in an announcement from the ministry that it had published a text for the teaching of Amharic as a second language which Ethiopian pupils could take as a major subject for their matriculation exams. There were similar plans afoot for children of Russian extraction.

In explaining his revolution, Levy was quoted as saying that "assimilation and absorption into Israeli society should not mean alienation from one's parental traditions and separation from one's cultural sources."

Levy's new directions could also be gauged in the cultural sphere from the announcement, by the head of the ministry's Culture Council, that "since 50 percent of the public is Mizrahi (stemming from Arab or Moslem countries) they cannot be compelled to enjoy the Israel Opera or the Israel Philharmonic Orchestra. Since the current minister of education is of Moroccan origin, it is only natural that he should be especially attentive to these feelings."

This was said in connection with plans to redistribute the council's cultural subsidies budget in favor of a slew of Mizrahi musical ensembles, theatrical groups and the like.

There are good reasons to establish a healthier balance in the way these budgets have been allocated. The Andalusian Ensemble, for example, is certainly as worthy of a fair share of this largesse as are many of the European-oriented musical groups that have sprung up in recent years, primarily as a result of the influx of top-rate musicians from the former Soviet Union.

THERE are two major problems,

Dry Bones



however, with Levy's new policies. One is the history of 15 years of Likud-led coalition governments, in which the NRP controlled the Ministry of Education, which slashed the education and culture budgets savagely.

This can only mean that if bigger budgets are to be allocated to new groups and activities, they will have to come at the expense of older groups, not from a bigger education and culture pie.

The other problem stems from Levy's apparent acceptance of the fashionable canard that Israel's older culture was an Ashkenazi one into which the later Mizrahi arrivals were forced to assimilate.

The truth is that Israel's core culture during the early years of nation-building was an attempt to realize the original Zionist ideal of creating a new, modern, Jewish

society, culture and nation. The original culture was not against Mizrahi culture but against the public use of Yiddish by east European Ashkenazi olim. Few people today remember the violent excesses of those years, in which new arrivals who spoke Yiddish in the streets were physically attacked by zealots of the Hebrew language.

In our present stage of nation-building, emphasis and budgets should continue to go towards shoring up our common identity rather than stressing our separate ethnic and tribal ones.

If Levy wants to channel his energy to a worthwhile cause, the new NRP leader should work toward the elimination of the anomaly of still being saddled with separate Ashkenazi and Sephardi rabbinate.

A most welcome visitor

YOSSI OLMERT

Tony Blair is clearly one of the world's most prominent and promising young leaders. His electoral victory after almost a generation of Tory domination in Britain, his ever-increasing popularity since then, the glowing stamina and innovative style of his leadership all attest to his talent.

Even the selection of the clumsy Robin Cook as foreign secretary demonstrates his political acumen. With a diplomat like Cook by his side, how can Blair fail to loom as a giant statesman?

Above all, the recent Northern Ireland agreement is evidence of Blair's vision, resilience and determination, but even a brilliant prime minister ought to listen to a word of caution, based on the long and traumatic experience of us, the Jews: A long, historic and bloody conflict such as the conflict which has tormented Ireland for centuries cannot, and will not, be solved in one agreement, as promising as it may seem to be. Also, the possibility of being awarded the Nobel Peace Prize should not change this grim, albeit realistic prospect.

The idea, therefore, that the Stormont wizard can perform another miracle in the Holy Land is nice, but somewhat unreal. Here, even the Blair touch will most like-

ly prove insufficient, and yet Tony Blair is a most welcome visitor to our country and his mission is one of potential and promise.

To start with, Blair represents not only Britain, but also Europe. Most Israelis harbor feelings of suspicion

commitments and a solution-oriented politician. His positions towards the Israeli-Palestinian conflict could be of major importance throughout Europe and it's therefore in Israel's interest to have him on our side, or for him to

Blair, of all people, is the right person to talk bluntly to Arafat about terrorism

and mistrust, and rightly so, towards Europe's role in the Middle East peace process. Visits like those of Cook and French President Jacques Chirac do nothing to improve Europe's image in the eyes of ordinary Israelis, and yet Europe is too close geographically and too significant politically and economically to be ignored by Israel.

Blair is just the type of European leader who can build bridges between Europe and Israel, taking into account his stature in world politics, his long-held pro-Israeli sentiment and his well-known intimate friendship with President Clinton.

Beyond that, Blair represents a new type of European leader - pragmatic, free of ideological

be strictly even-handed, rather than alienate him.

WITH all this in mind, Blair should strive hard to refrain from a typical mistake characterizing other European visitors: the adoption of double standards in relation to our problems with the Palestinians. Let's take, for example, the question of terrorism.

Blair's predecessor John Major, who initiated the Ulster peace process, did not follow the mistaken example set by the architects of the Oslo Accords. He refused to include the IRA's political wing, Sinn Féin, in the peace process for many months, in order to test on the ground, in actions rather than in words, their pledge to refrain

from terrorism. Yasser Arafat's PLO, on the other hand, was exempted from this unavoidable test, and the horrific results were written in blood all over Israel. Blair himself readily adopted Major's line, and therefore it's imperative that he take Arafat to task "over" the Palestinian Authority's toying with terrorism, the ongoing game of giving Hamas green and red lights to engage in terror and the repeated threat to unleash terrorism and other forms of violence as a legitimate course of action in the struggle against Israel.

What is so obvious with regard to Ireland and Britain should also be obvious with regard to Israel and the Palestinians. The question of terrorism is just one of some crucial stumbling blocks along the road to an Israeli-Palestinian settlement, but it is one of crucial significance, politically and emotionally.

Tony Blair is not expected to abandon traditional British and European positions with regard to issues such as settlements, but he, of all people, is the right person to talk bluntly to Arafat about terrorism. If he were to do so, and communicate this message to the Israeli public, he would justify his newly-acquired prominence in world politics and facilitate a useful European participation in the peace process.

Return to normality

CHARLES KRAUTHAMMER

accepting the diminished role it has been offered as bit player and buddy to the United States and the Western alliance.

A country that expanded at the rate of one Belgium every two years for 300 years does not easily learn the virtues of self-containment. Consider: Two of the leading presidential candidates to succeed Boris Yeltsin are the nationalistic Gen. Alexander Lebed, a potential Bonaparte, and the

comes naturally to a Great Power: pursuing its own interests in its region (as we do in ours, by the way). For now, it is restricting its bullying to just near neighbors, the colonies it ruled during the Soviet era: the Baltic States, Transcaucasia, Ukraine. (To say nothing of its "union" with Belarus.) This, while it is prostrate. When Russia regains its strength, however, as one day it undoubtedly will, it might seek to

NATO expansion is the easiest US foreign policy call of the decade

mayor of Moscow, Yuri Luzhkov. Luzhkov recently likened Latvia's government to Pol Pot and accused it of "pursuing a consistent policy of genocide." This after the Latvian government dispersed marchers protesting the second-class status of Latvia's Russians. Luzhkov, mind you, is a moderate.

And both he and Lebed are non-communists. They represent Russia's future. As for the present, Russia's foreign minister has gone to every length to embarrass and thwart the United States in an area as vital to American interests as the Persian Gulf.

This does not mean that the Russians are bad or that Czar Boris runs an evil empire. On the contrary, Russia is simply doing what

exert similar pressure on its awkwardly situated, relatively weak erstwhile satellites in Central Europe.

Hence NATO expansion. It says to the world, and particularly to the Russians, that the future of Central Europe is settled. The no man's land is no more. Poland, Hungary and the Czech Republic are now securely part of the American-allied West. Finit. And if any Russians entertain other ideas, they can forget about it.

Why is this a good idea? Because the weakness, instability and unsettled state of Central Europe has been a temptation to its Great Power neighbors for all of this century and a major cause of its great wars.

Germany's ambitions in Central

Europe were a major cause of the Second World War. Similar Russian aspirations triggered the Cold War. (The struggle for supremacy in Central Europe played a significant role in the outbreak of World War I as well.)

The point of NATO expansion is to consign the struggle for Central Europe to the back pages of history - the same pages that contain the story of such other unfortunately situated territories as Alsace and Lorraine. These provinces lying between France and Germany have, since 1870, exchanged hands four times and helped ignite three Franco-German wars. Today their status is so settled that the Alsace-Lorraine problem (like the even hairier Schleswig-Holstein question) lives only in the pages of the densest history texts.

Moreover, Central Europe's accession to NATO is certain to take. It is wholly natural. The Central European peoples consider themselves part of the West. They have always considered the Soviet occupation of 1945-1989 an aberration. By rejoining the West, they are rejoining their own histories.

NATO expansion is simply a return to a ratification of - normality. By ruling Central Europe out of bounds to Russia, NATO expansion takes one of this century's fatal temptations off the table. It is the easiest US foreign policy call of the decade.

(Washington Post Writers Group)

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

ARAB IMMIGRATION

Sir, - Lilliani Cohen states in her letter "Soul-searching" (April 10), that "here in Israel we tend to avoid" a clause in the Balfour Declaration that "in the establishment of the Jewish National Home [it] [be] clearly understood that nothing shall be done which may prejudice the civil and religious rights of existing non-Jewish communities." She next calls upon the people of Israel to engage in "soul-searching" on this obligation.

To set guidelines for the soul-search, it is necessary to locate the "existing non-Jewish communities" as of 1917. At the start of Jewish resettlement here, in the late 19th century, Arab population was sparse and had long been static.

After the start of Jewish immigration, Arab immigrants were also attracted to the country, yet it was after 1917 that there was massive Arab immigration, especially into Western Palestine from Trans-Jordan, Syria, Egypt and elsewhere. It was illegal immigration, but not of concern to the British authorities who were preoccupied with preventing Jews from entering their promised national home, even when they were in most dire need of that haven.

The British did not even keep

track of the influx of Arabs into Western Palestine so there are no precise statistics, but comparing non-Jewish population at the start and the end of the Mandate, the sum must run into the hundreds of thousands. The influx was heavy enough and obvious enough for Winston Churchill to comment in 1939: "So far from being persecuted, the Arabs have crowded into the country and multiplied..." Those Arabs who "crowded in" were not part of "existing non-Jewish communities."

That many of those recent arrivals left Israel in 1948 was a consequence of the actions of Arab leaders: Jews may well feel sympathy for their plight since then, but sympathy should not be confused with guilt.

Israel is indeed obliged to honor Lord Balfour's proviso on the civil and religious rights of non-Jewish communities that were here before 1917, and have chosen to remain here. That includes "rights" that they never enjoyed under Ottoman Turkish rule before 1917. If the Jews of Israel do in fact "tend to avoid" doing this, then soul-searching is truly in order.

P.J. BERLIN
Zichron Ya'acov.

ONE VOICE

Sir, - With reference to Norman Cohen's letter "Silence is golden" (April 15), one of the reasons the Conservative government lost last year's election was because the ministers could not agree amongst themselves on important topics. The present New Labor govern-

ment speaks with one authoritative voice on important issues. There is a lesson here for the Israel government to learn.

SIR SIGMUND STERNBERG
London, England.

TOMBSTONE REFLECTIONS

Sir, - Schneir Levin's letter, "Kosher for Pessah" (April 15) regarding the quaint inscription on Walter Geller's tombstone brings to mind other analogous episodes in Namibia and remote South African country districts.

All evince a great degree of tolerance, respect, affection and concern on the part of a non-Jew towards a Jew.

Perhaps this could serve as an example to those of our brethren who are single-mindedly bent on dividing us. Possibly they could search their souls and broaden their present rigid definitions so as to extend their efforts in the direction of unity.

JULIUS KOWEN

Ramat Hasharon.

THE PM'S CIGARS

Sir, - Reference your April 14 article on the announcement from the Prime Minister's office that the Prime Minister would no longer treat himself and his guests to \$30 cigars.

I suggest that the Prime Minister and his staff take a leaf out of the book of former US President Ronald Reagan who kept a jar of jelly beans on his desk and treated himself and his guests to jelly beans.

It may be a good political omen for the Prime Minister. President Reagan was overwhelmingly elected to a second term.

MARVIN S. SCHREIBER
Jerusalem.

FROM OUR ARCHIVES

65 years ago: On April 20, 1933, *The Palestine Post* reported that about 250 guests gathered in the King David Hotel in Jerusalem at a reception arranged by the Friends of the Hebrew University to mark the fifth anniversary of the institution. Chaim Nachman Bialik was among those present. In Haifa, the high commissioner for Palestine, Sir Arthur Wauchop, distributed diplomas to Technion

graduates. 50 years ago: On April 20, 1948, *The Palestine Post* reported that following a busy Arab exodus, Tiberias had become an all-Jewish town. Arabs from surrounding areas attempted to loot deserted houses, but were driven off by the Hagana, while the Jewish Health Department had placed the quarter under quarantine. Jewish pioneers founded a new settlement in the Negev on a hill-

top close to Bureir village, which had been the chief Arab threat to communications. 25 years ago: On April 20, 1973, *The Jerusalem Post* reported that the US secretary of state William Rogers repeated America's call for Israel and the Arab States to negotiate, directly or indirectly, as the only way to achieve any progress towards a Middle Eastern peace.

Alexander Zvielli

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Weekly Review

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Free Lunch

Feeding the New Work Ethic

By ADAM BRYANT

MOST lotteries offer such low odds of winning that they invite comparisons to rare lightning strikes. But there's a new lottery with terrific odds and lots of winners: It's called Corporate America.

As much as this month's huge mergers were about restructuring the financial-services industry, the deals also had the happy-go-lucky feel of a windfall celebration. When the Citicorp-Travelers Group merger was announced two weeks ago, John S. Reed, the Citicorp chairman, was asked how he reacted when his counterpart at Travelers first proposed the merger just five weeks earlier. "My instinct," Mr. Reed said, "was to say, 'Why not?'"

Why not, indeed. Details of the merger, including concerns from industry regulators, could be handled later. It was time for the C.E.O.'s to enjoy the sight of jaws dropping on their surprising news, and to watch stock-price jumps add \$67 million in paper profits in a single day to Mr. Reed's holdings of Citicorp stock, and \$248 million to the Travelers stock held by Sanford I. Weill, its chairman.

"This is a bigger opportunity for everybody who is part of it," Mr. Weill said the day of his merger announcement.

He could just as easily have been talking

part of Jerry Seinfeld's last contract, he got stock options in NBC's parent company, General Electric. One reason options are doled out so freely is that, because of favorable accounting rules, they don't show up as a charge against a company's earnings. And because they only pay off if the stock rises, companies like to think of them as risk-free investments.

When combined with the surging stock market, these options have created unexpected wealth, on paper and in real dollars, for legions of employees. Many see the granting of options to all ranks of workers as a laudably egalitarian approach to allowing employees to share in their company's prosperity. But there have also been some striking side effects.

With so many rich option profits, the gap is widening in American society between

those who hold stocks and stock options and those who are left out of the market lottery. Options can also create a disconnect between the effort people put into their jobs and the pay they receive for it. In Silicon Valley, many workers job-hop as they search for the one company where the options will pay off as well as they have for those who are now among the many "Microsoft millionaires."

The gap between pay and effort can be

Continued on Page 11

Stock options stoke Corporate America's lottery fever.

about all the people who are taking part in the broader stock market. The Dow Jones Industrial Average has climbed from 2,000 to over 9,000 over the last decade, generating pronouncements from market watchers that a fundamental shift has occurred in the way people invest. With so much at stake—the proportion of Americans' wealth tied up in stocks, about 28 percent, is at a 50-year high—bad market news is always lined up with at least some silver, if not gold. Stock drops are viewed by many as just opportunities to buy, as are giant mergers.

The obvious route to playing this big lottery is buying stock. But there is an even better lottery ticket, one that appears to cost nothing and is spreading deeply through the ranks of many companies: stock options.

These options, which are typically issued in addition to salary and bonus, grant the right to buy a company's shares at a set price for a set period of time—meaning the chance to buy stock at a discount if the share price rises. Options used to be given only to top executives, but they are now handed out to roughly 50 percent of midlevel professionals at major companies, and many surveys show that at least 1 in 10 of the companies offer them to most of their employees.

In fact, options have become a kind of currency beyond a company's walls: as



Naum Kuznetsov/The New York Times

Devil's Advocate

After the Reign of Terror, Safe Harbor

By PHILIP SHENON

THE wizened face of the corpse was all too familiar to Cambodians last week. Pol Pot, whose crazed Maoist-inspired revolution in the 1970's took the lives of more than a million Cambodians, had died in a Khmer Rouge outpost in the malarial jungles of northwestern Cambodia.

The final injustice of Pol Pot's life: he died, apparently peacefully and in his sleep, without ever having been forced to answer for his crimes.

While the failure of the international community to bring Pol Pot and his black-shirted henchmen to account for the "killing fields" might seem a tragedy to anyone with an interest in justice, it was hardly unusual.

The United Nations has established war-crimes tribunals to deal with those responsible for mass murder in the Balkans and Rwanda, and had talked about setting up another to deal with Pol Pot if he was ever

captured, nearly 20 years after a Vietnamese invasion ended his reign of terror.

But as often as not in recent decades, former tyrants have finished their lives in peaceful, even palatial retirement, never having to account for the misery they created. For reasons of realpolitik, money and simple laziness, many of the century's great killers are allowed to hide in plain sight, living off the plunder they gathered during their rule and placed in bank accounts abroad. Nobody is hunting for them; few people, other than their victims, seem to care.

Golden Years

For some, there is even glory in retirement. In a grand military ceremony last month, Gen. Augusto Pinochet, whose 17-year rule in Chile was marked by thousands of political murders, stepped down as commander in chief of the country's armed forces. The next day, he assumed a new title: Senator for Life.

There can be good reason to provide asylum for

dictators, especially if it persuades them to leave power without bloodshed, as was the case with President Ferdinand E. Marcos of the Philippines, who was flown to Hawaii in 1986 in the face of a popular uprising. But human rights groups say exile is granted too often, with too little justice for the victims.

"There's no question that political pragmatism has often overcome principle in dealing with crimes against humanity," said Diane F. Orentlicher, a law professor and war-crimes specialist at American University. "There's no reason for the world to give Idi Amin a comfortable retirement. These crimes don't go away by being swept under the carpet."

Visitors in Jidda, Saudi Arabia, are often surprised to find themselves pushing a shopping cart in one of the city's supermarkets alongside Mr. Amin, the former Ugandan dictator whose regime in the 1970's took the lives of an estimated 300,000 people.

Mr. Amin, who liked to throw the bodies of his

Continued on Page 12

In the Beginning

In 1948, Israel was just a vision. The visionaries would be surprised.

By Marc D. Charney

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Less Bidermanas from "Israel," (The Orion Press, 1989)

What's My Line?

Fun to catch. Good to eat. Now, swimming to our rescue.

By Timothy Egan

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Peace Puzzle

The unpredictable events behind the Irish peace agreement.

By Steven Erlanger

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UNWANTED

Former Ugandan dictator whose regime in the 1970's took the lives of an estimated 300,000 people.



IDI AMIN

WHEREABOUTS
Jidda, Saudi Arabia

UNWANTED

Head of the Khmer Rouge which wiped out a million Cambodians from 1975 to 1979.



POL POT

WHEREABOUTS
Cambodia

UNWANTED

Accused of overseeing the murder and torture of thousands of Haitians in the early 1990's.



EMMANUEL (TOTO)
CONSTANT

WHEREABOUTS
Queens, N.Y.

UNWANTED

Accused of coverup of rape and murder of four American churchwomen in San Salvador in 1980.



GENERAL JOSE
GUILLERMO GARCIA

WHEREABOUTS
Florida

The World

50 Years Ago in Israel: Trying to Imagine the Future

By MARC D. CHARNEY

BY declaring itself independent 50 years ago, Israel announced its intention to give Jews a new future. The past, especially the still gaping wound of genocide, had been too terrible. So there was a great temptation to peer into the future and imagine what it held.

Israel was a child whose birth had been long anticipated by many: visionary thinkers, socialists, nationalists, religious leaders, guerrilla fighters, foreign diplomats, desperate refugees. Everyone had a different idea of what form the future would take; any one vision might capture a sliver of the picture, but none seemed to see it whole.

One prediction was easy: There would be war. The outcome, and the shape of Israeli society, was another matter.

It was easy to see the besieged nation absorbing huge numbers of immigrants. But few saw how long the siege would last, or how divided Israel would become over the search for peace, and over social and religious issues.

Professor Michael Stanislawski of Columbia University, a specialist in Israeli history, says that Israel's founding fathers shared a faith that they were witnessing the "normalization" of the Jewish people in a new melting pot after the centuries in exile. The country's population today, and the depth of its internal disputes, would surely surprise them, he says.

Here then is a look at some early visions offered up for Israel. They share two things: Each begins with a shrewd observation, but none is completely right.

In 1902, the founder of modern Zionism, Theodor Herzl, wrote a utopian novel, "Altneuland" ("Old-New Land"), in which a Jewish Palestine was a hub of global commerce.

Europe is nearer to Palestine than to America. ... You can now go by rail from



An early pioneer at Kibbutz Daphne.

any place in Europe to Damascus, Jerusalem and Baghdad. ... The Cape-to-Cairo line ... has now been built, and so has the Trans-Siberian line to China, thus completing a network of which we are nearly the center.

In the late 1930's Zionists fruitlessly tried to persuade Britain to permit large-scale immigration to Palestine despite violent Arab opposition. A royal commission led by Earl Peel heard Chaim Weizmann, the leader of mainstream Zionism, in Jerusalem on Nov. 25, 1936:

There should be one place in the world, in God's wide world, where we could live and express ourselves in accordance with our character, and make our contribution. ... We would not have to be always on the defensive, or, on the contrary, become too aggressive, as always happens with a minority which is constantly on the defensive. ...

If we do not employ Arab labor, it is thrown in our faces: "You come into the country and you do not employ the labor for the country which is already there." And if we do employ Arab labor, we are likely to lay ourselves open to the reproach: "Here they are, they come and live here, and the real work is being done by others, while they are simply overlords." ... I hope we may be able to find a way by which Arabs may employ Jews in larger numbers, and Jews may employ Arabs in large numbers.

An Arab Minority

Vladimir Jabotinsky, the militant right-wing rival of the mainstream Zionists, also spoke about relations with the Arabs, appearing before the Peel Commission on Feb. 11, 1937:

The idea is that Palestine on both sides of the Jordan should hold the Arabs, their progeny and many millions of Jews. What I do not deny is that in that process the Arabs of Palestine will necessarily become a minority in the country of Palestine. What I do deny is that that is a hardship.

In 1948, as Jews prepared for the end of Britain's Palestine mandate at midnight on May 14, the United States State Department sought to have President Truman keep the land under United Nations trusteeship rather than immediately recognize a new Jewish state — which Truman did anyway. A memorandum of Jan. 20, 1948, from the State Department's policy planning staff, led by George F. Kennan, forecast:

Ultimately the U.S. might have to support the Jewish authorities by the use of naval units and military forces. ... It is improbable that the Jewish state could survive over any considerable period of time in the face of the combined assistance which would be forthcoming for the Arabs in Palestine from the Arab States, and in lesser measure from

their Moslem neighbors.

On the day of independence, Dr. Weizmann spoke to Israel's Jews in a radiogram from New York, where he had been involved in the frantic diplomacy:

OUR FOREFATHERS BUILT WITH ONE HAND WHILE DEFENDING THEMSELVES WITH OTHER STOP WE CALLED UPON TODAY ACT IN THIS TRADITION STOP IT IS PROFOUND DESIRE OUR PEOPLE ESTABLISH RELATIONS HARMONY AND MUTUAL RESPECT WITH THEIR ARAB FELLOW CITIZENS WITH NEIGHBORING ARAB STATES AND WITH ALL OTHER NATIONS IN HUMAN FAMILY STOP

The next night, Menachem Begin, who came to lead the militant right after the death of Jabotinsky in 1940, spoke over the radio of the Irgun guerrilla group.

One prediction was fairly easy: There would be war.

It is Hebrew arms which decide the boundaries of the Hebrew State. So it is now in this battle; so it will be in the future.

When a cease-fire was declared after Israelis won initial victories in the 1948 war, Abba Eban, Israel's representative at the United Nations, made an appeal for good relations with the Arabs in an article in the September 1948 issue of Commentary:

Arabs and Jews need each other for any progress or any escape from deadlock. ... the salient new fact created since May 14 is that the Arab world must either seek an adjustment with Israel or sink ever deeper into a mire of international discredit, social disturbance and political upheaval. ... If self-interest is even a subsidiary motive of political action, then Arabs must come to the conference table soon.

And what would happen now inside Israel? David Ben-Gurion, a principal exponent of the secular socialist ethics that many Zionists had brought from eastern Europe, addressed Kibbutz Hameukhad, invoking the spirit of the halutz, or Zionist pioneer, who was central to his vision:

Human freedom is the primary attribute of a halutz. ... A second attribute is equality. ... A third attribute — perhaps the most important one — is human cooperation, which means faith in the community, a bond with it and the will to pioneering unity.

The ultra-Orthodox leaders had something else in mind as a source of ethics; Rabbi J.Z. Dushinsky, representing the anti-Zionist group Agudath Israel — which would later join Ben-Gurion's coalition — described it to the Peel Commission, sitting in London, on Dec. 21, 1936:

The holy Torah has promised the Holy Land to the people of Israel, but it is by that very Torah that we are commanded not to occupy the country by force. ... but we are confident that to the extent that the returning exiles to Zion will fulfill the will of God, as revealed in the Torah, and will make the national home the abode of the Torah in all branches of economic and cultural endeavor

Sir Horace Rumbold questioned him:

Q. There should be a proportion of members of Agudath Israel employed in the posts and in the railways, but you also object to their working on Saturdays?

A. Yes.
Q. Do you not see what that leads to? ... The railways certainly are an important element in the economic life of the country ... do you not think that is going to make it rather difficult?

A. They will be run by Arabs on Saturdays, by non-Jews. On Saturdays the work can be done by non-Jews.

A week later, Yitzhak Ben-Zvi, president of the Jewish community's executive council, described how Palestine's various immigrant populations got along:

The Jewish population is united in religion, language and a common purpose and identifies itself with the aspirations and purpose of the Jewish national home. There is no difference on this score between the immigrants from European countries, such as Germany, Poland and Czechoslovakia, and those who came from Asiatic countries, such as the Yemen, Iran or Kurdistan.

On April 22, 1949, just 13 years later, a controversial article appeared in the newspaper Haaretz. The writer, Arye Gelblum, described immigrants from North Africa as dirty, disease ridden and prone to drunkenness and prostitution:

And then, other Oriental Jews will eventually join them, too! What will happen to the State of Israel and its standards with this type of population? Obviously all these Jews are entitled to come here no less than others, and they should be brought over and absorbed, but if it is carried out without consideration for our limited capacities and if it is not done gradually, they will "absorb" us rather than we them.

If such social tensions were not on people's minds while Israel was fighting to survive, one widespread hope was that warfare would end soon. The popular singer Shoshana Damari entertained troops with a song of the risk and promise of battle:

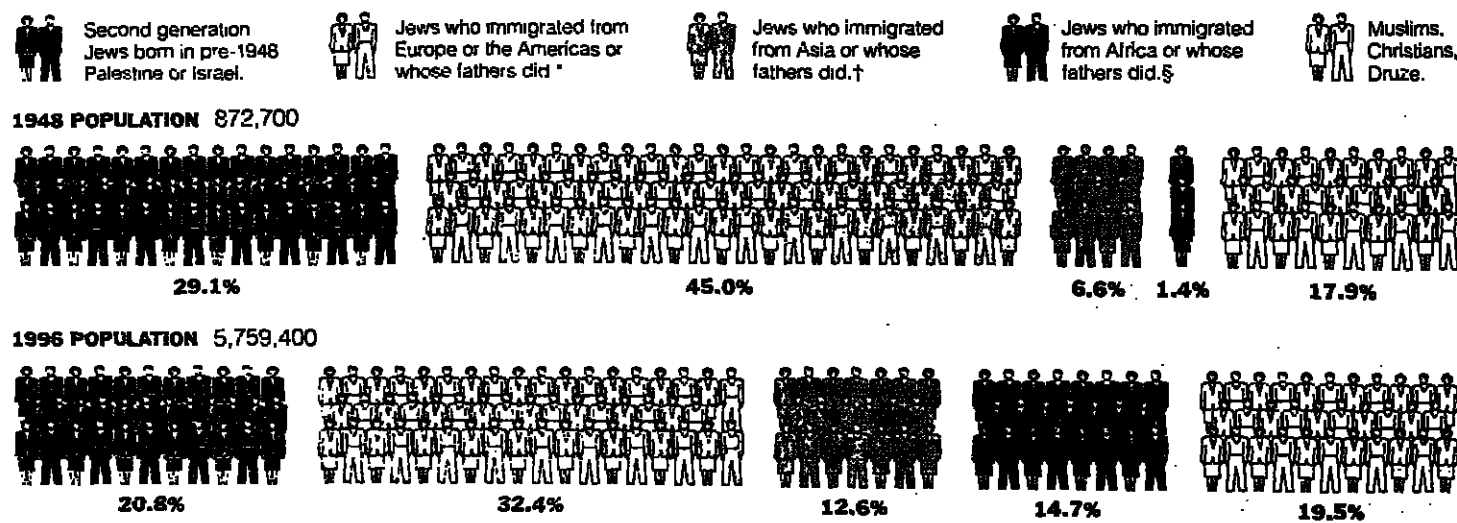
... From the roads leading south
A platoon returns from battle.
As stars fade it shall return from night,
The desert stretching primordial and vast,
Smile, sister, we have returned from our plight —
This battle was the last.



In Israel's early years, many presumed that youngsters would be molded into a new Israeli identity. Here, girls play in Old Jaffa.

Citizens of Israel: Then and Now

The ethnic makeup of Israeli citizens in 1948 and 1996 and the origins of the Jewish population.

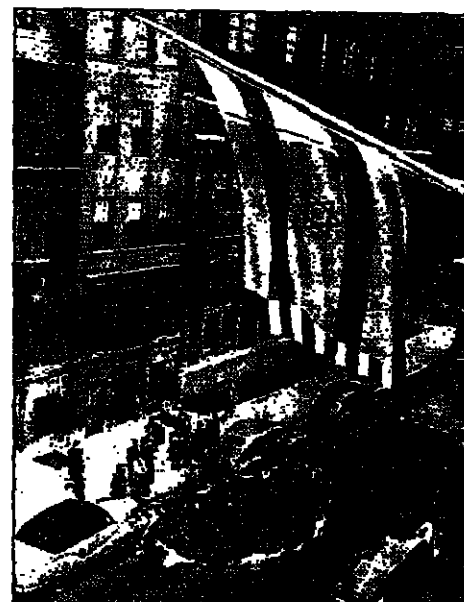


*Europe and the Americas include the former Soviet Union, Eastern and Western Europe, North and South America, Australia and New Zealand. †Asia includes Turkey, Iraq, Yemen, Iran, India and Pakistan. ‡Africa includes the North African nations and Ethiopia.

Source: Central Bureau of Statistics, Israel



Early years: Sentry in a frontier kibbutz.



May 14, 1948: Celebrating in New York.



June 1967: The Western Wall retaken.

The Nation

Meet the Fish That Might Save Seattle

By TIMOTHY EGAN

NEAR the end of a recent lovefest for endangered salmon, with corporate titans joining environmental leaders and politicians to announce their goal of rescuing a West Coast icon before it becomes extinct, came one jarring note.

"And what do you most like about salmon?" Gov. Gary Locke of Washington asked schoolchildren who had been brought before the cameras to make the case about one generation's responsibility to the next.

"I like to catch them," said an 8-year-old boy, "and I like to eat them."

There's nothing like an honest, old-fashioned assertion of humanity's place atop the food chain to put an environmental challenge in perspective. But in the days leading up to Earth Day, which falls on Wednesday, a new sense of environmental self-interest seems to be taking hold.

While the Endangered Species Act, the most powerful environmental law in the land, may have been created to save salmon,

on, owls and butterflies, many policy makers are now arguing that it may really be about saving us, the dominant species.

As Seattle Mayor Paul Schell put it, in a bit of political haiku, "Ironically, as we work together to save the salmon, it may turn out that the salmon saves us."

Keeping Things in Check

The salmon may do for Seattle what the striped bass did for New York City: check unbridled urban development. Concern over a landfill in the Hudson River that threatened the fish's habitat eventually scuttled a riverfront highway project. In the same vein, Seattle's quality of life is now threatened by a bulging metropolitan area, and the Endangered Species Act may be just the thing to keep the city's growth in check.

Think globally, act locally, has worked fine as a refrain, spawning recycling, chemical-free backyards and earth-friendly corporate labels. But in trying to persuade Americans to sacrifice in the name of a cleaner globe, some environmentalists say appeals to altruism can only go so far.

The debate over saving ancient forests took a marked turn when it was discovered that in the process of leveling national for-



At an observation window, a child watches salmon swimming through the Ballard Locks in Seattle.

There's just so much altruism can do to hold back development.

ests, loggers were not only destroying the habitat of the endangered spotted owls but also the Pacific yew tree, which contains a substance used in one of the most promising drugs for the treatment of breast cancer. The argument suddenly became one about a medical hope for despairing women.

Similarly, this month it was reported that one out of every three plant species in America, and one out of every eight in the world, is threatened with extinction by human activities. The report is a biodiversity four-alarm fire, though that term is still largely an abstraction to most people.

The coalition of scientists and environmentalists at the World Conservation Union who conducted the survey were quick to explain: most medicine comes from wild plants. Lose them, and lose potential cures for cancer.

"I still think we're better off appealing to

principles rather than, say, economics," said Dennis Hayes, founder of the original Earth Day in 1970, and now president of the Bullitt Foundation, a well-endowed environmental group here. "But it does seem like the people who are most fanatical about saving something like salmon are those who really like to eat them."

There was a great furor from developers around Austin, Texas, and in Southern California a few years ago when Federal officials said they would restrict urban sprawl to protect vanishing bird species. But homeowners discovered that the bonus of open space led to an increase in their property values. What was good for the dying birds turned out to be good for home equity.

The critics of environmental restoration insist that the Endangered Species Act and other laws have elevated plant and animal concerns to a high altar of eco worship. "Laws of the beetle, by the beetle and for the beetle" is how Representative Helen Chenoweth, Republican of Idaho, described the species act.

But recent polls in the Pacific Northwest suggest that a large majority of people see something in it for them in the effort to save the region's signature fish. They are willing to pay more in utility or water bills to bring salmon back to rivers.

The attempt to save wild salmon on the West Coast is the most ambitious effort yet to try to restore a natural system to large

urban areas. In the Puget Sound region, nearly three million people live in an area where many strains of chinook salmon are close to extinction. The effort to bring those fish back may force restrictions on everything from lawn care to future expansion of companies like Boeing and Microsoft.

"Ultimately, we're talking about real changes in people's lives," said Tryg Slette-land, director of Pacific Rivers Council, a Oregon-based environmental group. "We're talking about limiting growth, increasing housing density and limiting traffic."

Wretched Urban Excess

Cities elsewhere are attempting to do the same thing. Denver, now nearly 500 square miles, is trying to reign in some of its runaway growth. But without a federally sanctioned icon like salmon, the city has had to make a general appeal to protect the Rocky Mountain good life. Only as traffic has worsened in the metropolitan area have some of those appeals hit home, Colorado's city planners say.

Even Las Vegas, the fastest-growing city in the country and the epitome of wretched urban excess, has tried to save wild plants and animals by appealing to the self-interest of its citizens. In signing a conservation plan last week to protect the Palmers chipmunk and Clokey's eggplant, a plant, in the Spring Mountains just outside Las Vegas City lim-

its, elected officials talked about the great thrill and tourist draw it would be to go out for an afternoon of nature out of range of a slot machine or blackjack table.

Underlying the nation's latest conservation efforts is the basic assumption — let's save the salmon, kids! — as old as any American virtue. In outlining his plans to green groups for a millennial campaign for Earth Day, Mr. Hayes managed to refer indirectly to someone not usually mentioned in environmental circles.

"Earth Day 2000 will be almost Reaganesque in optimism," he said. "Humans made these problems. We can decide to do something different."

But the more daunting question is whether land that has been sealed by pavement, crammed with skyscrapers and had its genetic bank plundered can ever again respond to the laws of nature. The answer, from people like Governor Locke, is — yes. And then Americans can go back to doing the things they take for granted in the natural world.

At the salmon meeting, for example, the Governor spoke of the need to restore biodiversity, to protect quality of life, to keep the economy humming. Then he mentioned his own stake in the issue. "Just as my dad took me salmon fishing on Puget Sound," he said, "I want to be able to do the same with my daughter Emily."



Schoolchildren enjoy a salmon fry.

The Late Shift

He's Still Waiting for The Big One

By JAMES STERNGLD

RICHARD LIECHT was a young scientist with the United States Geological Survey, living in Palo Alto, Calif., when he was offered what seemed the opportunity of a lifetime — as long as he could relocate fast. Geophysicists said, with almost no doubt, that a major earthquake was about to strike the tiny central California town of Parkfield, and that they could "trap" it, recording almost every aspect of the event. Mr. Liecht would help rush the instruments into place and then maintain them for a year or more.

That was in April 1985. Mr. Liecht moved on May 13 or May 15 — he's not quite sure which now — and prepared himself for an unprecedented breakthrough in earthquake forecasting. Thirteen years later, he is still waiting.

"We about drove ourselves nuts trying to get this set up before the big quake hit," said Mr. Liecht, a soft-spoken man of 44 who presides over the most intensely observed piece of Earth in America, perhaps in the world. "Now it's like any other Government project: hurry up and wait."

Hardly a week passes without news of some natural disaster, floods or tornadoes, striking an unsuspecting community and taking lives because people were not prepared. And then there's Parkfield, which is as prepared as modern science allows it to be, with hundreds of highly sensitive instruments, poised for an event that does not seem to want to happen there. The Government spent about \$2 million installing scientific equipment, and about another \$1 million a year maintaining it.

Quake Awareness Month

"This is the premier experiment of this kind in the United States," said Bill Bakun, a research geophysicist at the United States Geological Survey in Menlo Park. "In fact, it's the only place we're trying to do this."

April is earthquake awareness month in California; the devastating San Francisco earthquake of 1906 fell on April 18. And Earth Day, too, happens this Wednesday. The Parkfield experiment has turned into a celebration of the inscrutability of the Earth's forces, or at least of the San Andreas fault, on top of which the town lies. Early on, Parkfield was the subject of intense media scrutiny. With the lack of any action, the interest has all but died, although the experiment is in an episode of "Forces of the Wild," scheduled for May 3 on PBS.

Earthquakes are different from just about every other natural disaster because they cannot be observed directly. Even notoriously fickle tornadoes show up on radar, but quakes occur at least three miles below the surface of the Earth.



A few local businesses capitalized on the earthquake experiment in Parkfield, Calif.

But geophysicists watching quake patterns along the San Andreas thought they perceived the dim outlines of an earthquake in a 16-mile section around Parkfield. Big temblors had hit the area in 1857, 1881, 1901, 1922, 1934 and 1966 — roughly every 22 years. Scientists also thought they had proof that stress built up within the Earth would be released by 1988.

Parkfield, a farming and ranching area, lies almost in the exact center of the state. Its population is fewer than 40 people. Scientific instruments blanket the area, some in deep holes in the ground. There are hundreds of seismometers, 115 alone in an old oil well.

An initial fear, Mr. Liecht said, was that the earthquake would hit before the scientists could establish a baseline — a body of data recording the normal features of the area. That is no longer a problem.

Theorizing on why the 22-year cycle was disrupted, Mr. Bakun said that the scientists had liked Parkfield, in part, because it rests on a stretch of the fault with few if any intersecting faults. A fairly large earthquake at nearby Coalinga in 1983, which all but leveled the town, is now believed to have released some of the pent-up energy at Parkfield, thus delaying the 1988 quake.

Some experts disagree strongly. David D. Jackson, a professor of geophysics at the University of California at Los Angeles, who sup-

ports the idea of such an experiment, said the experiment is just in the wrong place. "I would pick a place that has had an earthquake recently," he said. "They believe faults get pregnant and then have their baby. I think that when they're hot, they're hot."

Mr. Jackson's first choice would be Landers, a town in the Mojave Desert that suffered a 7.3 earthquake in 1992 and still experiences aftershocks as great as 5 on the Richter scale.

"There's just not much data," he said. "We don't know that much about earthquakes. We'd have to have successful Parkfields by the dozen to do real predictions, and we don't have one successful Parkfield yet."

Fault Lines and Building

Research has produced some practical benefits, though, which have had a major impact on land use planning. Once scientists determine that a fault exists under a certain area, town planners usually alter their zoning plans to restrict development.

"The best thing we can do is to have public policy that emphasizes preparedness like that," said James F. Davis, the state's geologist.

"It's true, we don't know how to do real predicting yet," said Mr. Bakun, "but there are those of us who are not willing to concede that it's impossible."

Feeding America's New Work Ethic

Continued From Page 9

especially wide for chief executives, who get huge grants of stock options for reasons that appear to have very little to do with the size or performance of their companies. For those at the top, even a relatively small uptick in the stock price can translate into millions of dollars in paper profits.

Many chief executives have blunted resentment of their rich option packages by sprinkling options through their company's ranks. But when the stock drops sharply — yes, it does happen at a lot of companies — the C.E.O. may suddenly be blamed for wiping out part of employees' anticipated savings from cashing in the options.

Further widening the gap between pay and effort, many companies lower the price of options when their share price falls steadily, effectively lowering the bar over which employees must jump for the options to pay off. The practice, known as "repricing," infuriates many outside investors, who say that repricing can have the perverse effect of rewarding poor performance.

License to Churn

Given that there is no real downside to stock options, it is perhaps not surprising that big option packages provide an incentive for chief executives to experiment more freely with ways to lift their companies' stock price. William Gerard Sanders, a professor of strategic management at Brigham Young University, studied 250 large American companies from 1991 to 1995, and found that large stock-option holdings for top executives tended to increase the frequency of acquisitions and divestitures — "symbolic churning," as Mr. Sanders called it — to get stock prices up.

"Option pay," Mr. Sanders said, "essentially grants the executive a potential winning ticket in a compensation lottery."

It is a lottery that many people are rushing to join, particularly in high-technology companies where stock options are standard equipment in most pay packages. The vigorous economy in Silicon Valley, for example, has given options something of a public-relations halo — employees with options ideally feel more like

owners, and have an incentive to work through the night. At big companies, however, many lower level workers don't quite know what they can do differently to help lift the stock price — except, at consumer-goods companies, maybe buying more of their company's own products.

"People become enfranchised with stock options, and I think the work ethic in high-technology companies can be tremendously accelerated," said Jim Trattner, who runs the Trattner Network and Talentwave, two companies based near San Francisco that place executives and provide contract help to technology companies (Mr. Trattner's companies also take stock options from clients as part of their fees.)

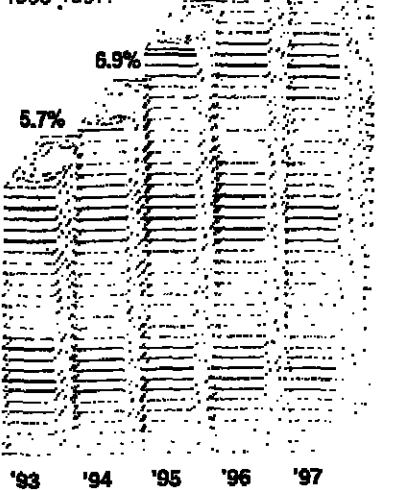
But Mr. Trattner, a former clinical and industrial psychologist, said the proliferation of stock options among technology companies had caused another change that he does not necessarily applaud.

"I'm old enough to say that there used to be a sort of intrinsic motivation to do something for the love of it," said Mr. Trattner, who is 58.

"Now," he added, "it's like, 'Let's make a buck,' and I think there is something lost in that."

A Growing Trend

Percent of major companies granting stock options to a broad range of employees, 1993-1997.



Source: William M. Mercer Inc.

The New York Times



President Clinton greeted a crowd at Guildhall in Londonderry, Northern Ireland, in November 1995.



A placard in west Belfast reported the peace agreement on April 10, 30 years after the violence began.

In Ireland, Courage and Good Timing

By STEVEN ERLANGER

THE Northern Ireland peace agreement, framed with such difficulty out of so many years of hatred and mistrust, was itself an accident of timing. Its implementation will require a similar mixture of bravery and luck.

Some sort of settlement was going to happen sometime, as it will also happen, sometime, in the Middle East. But this triumph benefited as much from the confluence of unpredictable events as from the courage of the participants.

Thirty years of vicious and personalized killings, one by one, since the Troubles began again in earnest in 1969, built a solid sense of disgust among most in Northern Ireland, Protestant and Catholic. That disgust, combined with a comparative economic boom in both Britain and the Irish Republic, made the violence seem that much more self-defeating and antique, particularly among younger people with an increasingly European sense of themselves and their future.

But disgust has never been enough to stop the killing in Northern Ireland. It still required acts of imagination and courage from political leaders — including President Clinton. He had already reached out to the Catholic side to grant a visa to the Sinn Féin leader Gerry Adams in early 1994, ignoring the protests of Britain and his own Cabinet.

Mr. Clinton was also willing to fold the easy domes-

tic card of Irish republicanism and reach out to the Ulster Unionists and their young leader, David Trimble, giving them similar access to the American Government. The result was a lessening of suspicion of Mr. Clinton's motives — and those of his special envoy, the former Senate majority leader, George Mitchell, who chaired these talks.

Even the aging revolutionaries of Sinn Féin, the political wing of the Irish Republican Army, had grown weary and fearful for their own children. So when Mr. Adams got his visa, he was ready to use the credibility Mr. Clinton provided to persuade the I.R.A. to forswear violence for a seat at the negotiating table.

Much important work had been done by the former Conservative Prime Minister of Britain, John Major. Still, the pact probably would not have happened without the election of a new Labor Prime Minister, Tony Blair. He had a huge majority, a willingness to spend political capital early and new ideas about sovereignty and the decentralization of power.

When Success Is Failure

For Mr. Mitchell, the satisfaction of orchestrating an agreement under the pressure of a deadline is muted only by his continuing astonishment at the ability of the participants to think the worst of one another.

"One of their worst practices is that each party judges success by the failure of the others," Mr. Mitchell said in an interview here. "If Trimble feels success, Adams feels failure. So every decision became a zero-

sum game." Matters got so bad in the all-day, all-night marathon that Mr. Mitchell and the two Prime Ministers, Mr. Blair and Ireland's Bertie Ahern, drafted language they called "the mutual assured destruction paragraph." Mr. Adams was convinced that Mr. Trimble would insure that the North-South consultative bodies, which give Dublin a small say in the running of the north, would

Death after death over three decades congealed into a collective sense of disgust.

be delayed or killed by the Northern Ireland Assembly, where Mr. Trimble's party would be a majority. Mr. Trimble was convinced that Mr. Adams wanted to delay the establishment and functioning of the Assembly.

In the end, with Mr. Clinton's help of advice and jaw-boning with all the parties, a compromise was reached out to insure that the North-South bodies would hold a round of meetings before the Assembly was constituted, expected to be by February 1998. And the "mutual assured destruction paragraph" was drafted to say that if one body does not function, neither does the other.

Mr. Mitchell sees dangers to the agreement in the

likelihood of violence from fringe militants on both sides who want to derail the deal, and the unavoidable risk that the agreement might be rejected in simultaneous referendums in both parts of Ireland on May 22 — although opinion polls show sizeable majorities in favor.

Delicate Issues

But more important, the implementation of a complicated set of arrangements will be difficult. They include the delicate issues of police reform, turning in of arms by militants, the freeing of prisoners and the establishment of the Assembly and North-South bodies, both of which must deliver increased prosperity and justice to the citizens of the North, especially the Catholic minority.

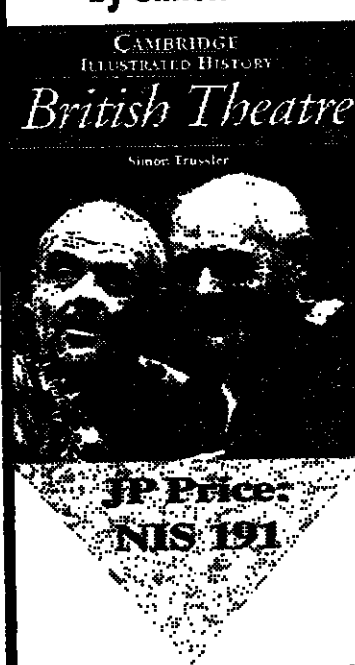
That will require that the new Unionist willingness to transcend the parochialism of the past be matched by a new generosity toward the Catholics, who have given up the idea of a united Ireland through any means but the consent of the majority population of the North.

There are hopeful signs. "Gerry Adams and Sinn Féin have been brought in from the cold," notes Padraig O'Malley of the University of Massachusetts in Boston. "This is not peace in our time," he said. "But even if the Sinn Féin governing body were to vote against the pact, it would not produce a big split. So to that extent, the I.R.A. as we have known it in our time, is over."

And in 1973, the last time a multiparty peace deal was reached in Northern Ireland, Unionist dissenters caused the arrangement to fall apart within months. Their leader then was David Trimble.

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A Reign of Terror, Then Safe Harbor

Continued From Page 9

perceived opponents to crocodiles and often described Adolf Hitler as a role model, has frequently been seen cruising the streets of Jidda in a white Chevrolet.

Now 72, Mr. Amin, his four wives and most of their dozens of children have lived in Saudi Arabia since he fled Uganda ahead of an invasion by neighboring Tanzania in 1979.

Seeking Justice

And while Ugandan leaders have periodically called for Mr. Amin to be returned for trial for crimes against humanity, they have not aggressively pressed the Saudis, who provided exile to Mr. Amin because of his claims that he is a devout Muslim.

In Haiti, human rights activists want justice for the victims of Emmanuel Constant, who led a paramilitary group, the Front for the Advancement and Progress of Haiti, that was responsible for the murder and torture of thousands of Haitians in the early 1990's. Known to his friends as Toto, he has been living openly in Queens since he fled Haiti in 1994. When American troops invaded Haiti that year and raided his former headquarters, they found the walls covered with photographs of mutilated bodies, souvenirs of the group's terror campaign.

The United States has refused to extradite Mr. Constant to Haiti, arguing that Haiti's legal system is incapable of providing him with a fair trial. Human-rights activists wonder whether the United States has other motives for keeping him here; Mr. Constant has claimed in the past that he was a paid informer for the Central Intelligence Agency.

"How could the United States have been talking about being involved in an operation to capture Pol Pot and yet at the same time be providing what is tantamount to political asylum to this human rights abuser?" said Ron Daniels of the Center for Constitutional Rights in New York. "It's extraordinarily hypocritical."

The United States has often provided sanctuary to foreign leaders accused of human rights abuses, even when the victims of the abuse included American citizens.

The former Defense Minister of El Salvador, Gen. José Guillermo García, and the former National Guard director, Col. Carlos Eugenio Vides Casanova, have been granted residence in the United States, even though United Nations investigators

concluded that they attempted to cover up the Salvadoran National Guard's involvement in the 1980 murder of three American nuns.

The United States has long been accused of hypocrisy in dealing with war criminals in the Balkans. While Washington has repeatedly called for Radovan Karadzic and Gen. Ratko Mladic to be brought to trial for genocide, there has been no effort by American peacekeeping troops to grab the two indicted Bosnian Serb leaders. General Mladic, the former military commander, seems to revel in being seen in public. His summer holiday last year took him from the Adriatic to the Danube, and he often traveled along roads that are supposed to be patrolled by American and other NATO troops.

Even some State Department officials acknowledge that hypocrisy has always been a theme in Washington's dealings with Pol Pot and the Khmer Rouge. When the Vietnamese invaded Cambodia in 1978 and forced Pol Pot back into the jungle, the United States sided with Pol Pot, declaring the Khmer Rouge to be the legitimate government of Cambodia despite obvious evidence of its slaughter. In the calculations of the cold war, the United States, still stung by its defeat in Vietnam, considered the Khmer Rouge the lesser evil.

A Disturbing Pattern

In the days before Pol Pot's death, the United States insisted that it was mounting an international campaign to capture him and bring him to trial. But what of the last 20 years?

Pol Pot may have died in the jungles of Cambodia. But for long stretches in the 1980's, he organized his insurgency against the Vietnamese-installed government from a base in Thailand, a long-standing American ally. When he needed medical treatment, he was taken to hospitals in Bangkok, the Thai capital, that were only a short drive from the American Embassy.

For many Cambodians, the United States has a final chance to restore its credibility as a defender of human rights by forcing Pol Pot's henchmen to face justice.

"If they are not brought to trial, it would leave so many questions unanswered," said Steven Heder, a Cambodia specialist at London's School of Oriental and African Studies. "If you started with a trial of Pol Pot, you shouldn't stop there. There are thousands, if not tens of thousands, of people with blood on their hands."

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ECONOMY

Broken Pact and \$97 Million Payday for Montana Workers

By JIM ROBBINS

COLUMBIA FALLS, Mont. In 1985, the Columbia Falls Aluminum Company wrung a 15 percent pay cut from employees in return for an apparent will-o'-the-wisp: a share of profits from an aluminum refinery that was a perennial money loser.

Brack W. Duker, the corporate executive who had just bought the refinery from the Atlantic Richfield Company for a symbolic \$1, held out a firm promise, many workers recall. If the aluminum market ever recovered, Mr. Duker assured them as he lobbied for the plan, "a dollar in your pocket is a dollar in mine."

In the end, the workers reluctantly accepted the offer. And the price of aluminum did in fact recover — far beyond anyone's expectations. Starting in 1986, Columbia Falls Aluminum became a money-maker.

But over the next five years, rather than splitting the take, Mr. Duker and his minority partner, Jerome Broussard, funneled much of the money into offshore bank accounts. Before they cut off their union and salaried employees altogether, the two men had awarded \$84 million to them and \$231 million to themselves. As it turned out, a dollar in the pockets of workers would be nearly \$3 in those of the owners.

In 1989, Mr. Duker and Mr. Broussard dismissed their chief financial officer after he raised concerns about their financial practices. With him gone, and with the plant's work force more concerned about job security than profit-sharing checks, there seemed to be no end to the gravy train.

But there was something ahead on the tracks that would derail it — a 39-year-old accountant at the plant named Roberta Gilmore, who challenged the company's bookkeeping practices and was promptly told, she says, to keep her mouth shut.

Instead, after fuming for a couple of years, she filed a lawsuit. What ensued was a classic David-versus-Goliath business tale.

Clearly, Mr. Duker had the upper hand in any war of attrition. And yet, five years and 10 months after the suit was filed, he threw in the towel. Just two weeks before Ms. Gilmore's lawsuit was scheduled for trial, he agreed to pay the workers \$97 million — nearly double his previous offer and eight times the initial proposal he made in 1985. When she heard the news, Ms. Gilmore broke into sobs.

More than 1,000 current and former employees at the refinery here will be getting checks this month, ranging from a few thousand dollars to more than \$300,000, depending on

their length of service. But no one is celebrating it as an unambiguous victory. For even though the workers received far more than they ever thought they would, they also believe that Mr. Duker and Mr. Broussard are walking away with \$57 million that is rightfully theirs, too.

"There's not a feeling anybody won," said Terry Smith, president of the Aluminum Workers' Trade Council, the hourly workers' union. "There's a feeling of relief."

This account is based mainly on court documents and interviews with workers and their lawyers. Both Mr. Duker and Mr. Broussard declined to be interviewed. But the thrust of their position — as articulated in court records, a company response to written questions and telephone interviews with one of their lawyers — is that there was no binding profit-sharing agreement.

While declining to go into specifics, the lawyer, Mark Shipow of Los Angeles, disputed the plaintiffs' calculation of the size of that disparity. "The numbers are wrong and their figuring is wrong," he said last week.

A Refinery for \$1

In 1985, ARCO was selling its metal division and wanted to get rid of the Columbia Falls plant, which was losing money. So the oil company devised a plan to sell it for \$1 (plus \$3 million for the inventory) to Mr. Duker, an ARCO executive in charge of divesting unwanted properties.

As part of the deal, the two sides agreed that workers would take a major share of all future profits, if any materialized. In a one-and-a-half-page letter to Mr. Duker — a document that would become pivotal evidence more than a decade later in Ms. Gilmore's lawsuit — ARCO spelled out that condition, saying employees "will have a claim against at least 50 percent of the profits earned in each year." Far from objecting, court records show, Mr. Duker embraced the idea, originally suggesting that employees should receive 90 percent, not just half.

As soon as Mr. Duker and Mr. Broussard took over, they started a drive to cut operating costs, wielding the threat of closing the plant as leverage with government agencies. With the entire town behind them, they won huge cuts in the plant's electricity rates and property taxes. A linchpin of the cost-cutting plan, though, was persuading the hundreds of workers to take a 15 percent pay cut in return for a 50 percent share of any future profits. With the specter of a shutdown looming larger, the workers consented.

The cost-cutting paid off handsomely. In the year ended July 1986, the first full year under Mr. Duker's management, Columbia Falls Alumi-

num went into the black. And according to court documents, the new owners honored their profit-sharing agreement to the letter, taking \$1.3 million for themselves and distributing \$1.3 million to the workers.

The next year, they also divided the profits almost 50-50 — but with a twist that bothered Revo Somersille, the company's chief financial officer.

In 1986, the two partners in the closely held company had borrowed their projected share of the profits from Columbia Falls Aluminum's coffers and paid it back with interest. In 1987, they borrowed \$6.5 million for the same reason, and again they repaid the money — but this time, there was something missing.

"I asked them how much interest they were going to pay," Mr. Somersille said, "and they said there wasn't going to be any interest." That, Mr. Somersille thought, was unethical.

He would soon have even greater reservations about the owners' financial dealings. With costs plummeting and the price of aluminum soaring, the refinery's profits kept surging.

Yet in 1989, according to Mr. Somersille's deposition in the lawsuit, the owners deducted the company's Social Security taxes from the workers' share of the profits. In his view, that maneuver violated the profit-sharing agreement. "I indicated my displeasure," said Mr. Somersille, who now runs an accounting practice in Whitefish, Mont. Soon after, was dismissed — because, he said, "I was making waves."

With his departure, accounting duties fell to Ms. Gilmore, the accounting supervisor. She had moved to Montana from Columbus, Ohio, in 1977 so she could spend her leisure time hiking, climbing and paddling her kayak across its wild landscapes. Starting out at the plant as one of several accountants, it was only a few years before she was in charge of more than a dozen people.

In March 1990, she said, company executives asked her to sign a letter to the accounting firm Ernst & Young, which was conducting a routine audit, saying that the company had no "contingent liabilities." She refused because, in her view, there were huge liabilities — millions of dollars in profit-sharing money owed workers, she says she told her bosses.

"I knew I couldn't sign the letter, ethically, morally and legally," Ms. Gilmore said in an interview. Her employers were not pleased, instructing her, she said, "to keep my mouth shut."

Mr. Shipow, Mr. Duker's lawyer, said, "The company denies it did anything wrong or intimidated anyone." He also disputed employees'



Roberta Gilmore, with her lawyers, from left, Roger Sullivan, Allan McGarvey and Jon Heberling, sued Columbia Falls Aluminum.

estimates of how much was owed to them, saying they did not take into account large sums that went to pay taxes on the profits.

Then why settle for almost \$100 million? "There's no such thing as a slam dunk," Mr. Shipow replied. "Instead of trying the case, moving on to make a lot more money for everyone seemed to be the way to go."

According to Ms. Gilmore, the admonition from her bosses kept her silent — and the company without a completed audit — for two years. But by 1992, she says, her frustration grew as profit-sharing distributions to the workers stopped. So Ms. Gilmore turned for help to an old friend and fellow outdoors enthusiast, a small-town lawyer named Roger Sullivan.

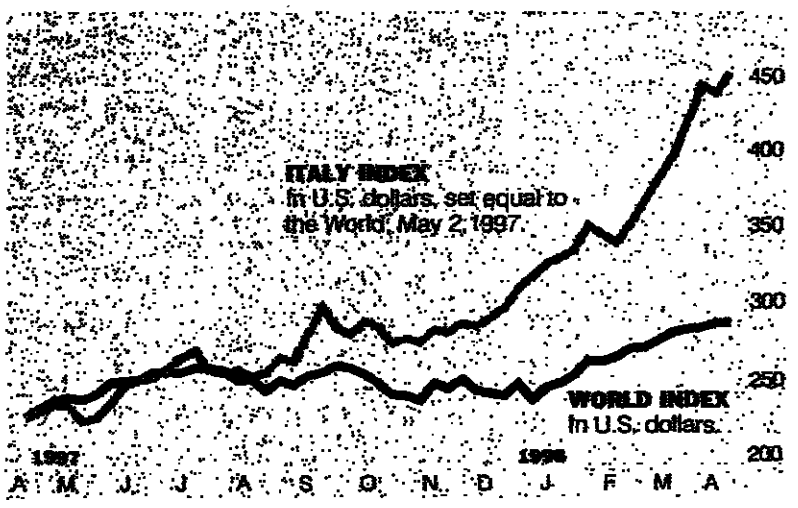
He was a lawyer at the firm of McGarvey, Heberling, Sullivan & McGarvey in Kalispell, 20 miles from Columbia Falls.

Mr. Sullivan recommended that she take legal action, and on Sept. 24, 1992, she filed a class-action lawsuit on behalf of herself and salaried workers at the plant. (Hourly workers would enter the suit later, through Powers & Lewis, a firm in Washington that specializes in labor law.)

The next morning, Ms. Gilmore reported to work as usual at 6:30. "At 6:40, I was surrounded by managers," she said. "They escorted me out the door like I was a criminal."

A Long, Twisting Legal Road

Placed on paid leave, Ms. Gilmore started a kayak outfitting business and worked on the lawsuit with Mr. Sullivan and one of his partners, Allan McGarvey. She found herself shunned by many of her fellow workers, who feared that the trouble she was causing might lead to the closing of the plant.



Prepared by Goldman, Sachs & Co. using data derived from the Financial Times/Standard & Poor's Actuaries World Indices, a measure of stock market performance. The FT indices are compiled jointly by The Financial Times Limited, Goldman, Sachs & Co. and Standard & Poor's, in conjunction with the Institute of Actuaries and Faculty of Actuaries.

Source: Goldman, Sachs & Co. Exchange rates as of Friday's London close. © 1998 The Financial Times Ltd., Goldman, Sachs & Co. and Standard & Poor's.

Exchange rates	Friday	Last Friday	Week % Chg.	Year Ago
Japanese yen to the U.S. dollar	131.79	128.65	+2.44	125.85
German marks to the U.S. dollar	1.8083	1.8228	-0.795	1.7102
Canadian dollars to the U.S. dollar	1.4285	1.4247	+0.266	1.3995
U.S. dollars to the British pound	1.6832	1.6730	+0.609	1.6331

Source: Bloomberg Financial Markets; exchange rates as of Friday's New York close.

mans called Eural to receive the profits from the refinery rather than recording them on the American company's books, where they would be subject to claims by the workers.

Based on that memo, the lawyers went to Federal court in September 1995 and asked Judge Jack D. Shustrom to place the assets of Columbia Falls Aluminum in receivership. Mr. Duker and Mr. Broussard were subpoenaed for a hearing. Mr. Sullivan said, but in a courthouse-steps agreement, the two men agreed to put the company's stock under Federal court jurisdiction and to suspend all profit-sharing payments. They also proposed a \$12 million settlement of the lawsuits, taking out a full-page ad in the local newspaper urging the workers to accept it. The deal was rejected overwhelmingly.

Two months later, in November 1995, the union contract at Columbia Falls Aluminum was up for renegotiation. Mr. Duker wanted to eliminate any mention of profit-sharing, and company officials again trotted out the threats of closing the plant. They also hired a private security force that had worked for coal companies during violent strikes in Appalachia in the 1980's. The 18 guards wore uniforms and berets and carried surveillance cameras. In small-town Montana, the message was clear, said Mr. Smith, the union leader: "If we went out on strike, it was going to be hardball."

To that stick, Mr. Duker added a carrot. He would reinstate the wages that had been reduced in 1985. Facing the prospect of a long strike they could end up losing, the workers agreed to his terms.

By 1997, after years of frustration and a contempt citation for Mr. Duker for failing to produce financial documents, the plaintiffs' lawyers finally had received the bulk of the partners' personal financial records. According to court documents, the lawyers learned that a great deal of money earned by the company had been transferred to the personal accounts of Mr. Duker and Mr. Broussard in offshore bank accounts on the Isle of Man and Gibraltar. (Mr. Shipow, Mr. Duker's lawyer, said the accounts were set up as trusts for the two owners' families "as part of estate planning.")

That spring, Mr. Duker raised the settlement offer to \$50 million. Again, the workers voted no.

Last December, Mr. Sullivan and Mr. McGarvey moved to a hotel in Missoula to prepare for a Jan. 3 trial date. The proceedings were scheduled to last two months, and hundreds of witnesses had been summoned to appear. Five days before Christmas, at a mandatory settlement conference, Mr. Duker raised the offer again, to \$97 million.

This time, the workers accepted, by a 4-to-1 ratio. The two lawyers will get more than \$6 million of the \$32 million share received by salaried employees. The union lawyers will receive 10 percent of the \$65 million awarded to hourly employees. The remaining \$84 million is being split by roughly 1,000 workers and former workers: The average amount to union members employed throughout the profit-sharing period is \$100,000, while salaried employees with similar tenure will receive about \$150,000.

Columbia Falls Aluminum, in its written statement, said that the settlement, combined with previous profit-sharing disbursements, made its employees "among the highest paid — if not the highest paid — workers in the aluminum industry."

For her role in the affair, Ms. Gilmore, known as Bobbie, has become something of a heroine in Columbia Falls.

There is a bitter tinge, however, to the sweetness of victory for Ms. Gilmore. The aluminum company had rehired her in 1995, albeit in a job with less responsibility than she once held. When the class-action lawsuit was settled, she dropped her wrongful dismissal complaint against the company in return for an undisclosed award, and it dropped its breach-of-confidentiality suit.

But today, Ms. Gilmore is on medical leave for stomach problems caused by stress. "It's awkward," she said, working for a company that she feels conducted psychological war against her.

A Letter and a Ruling

The lawsuit dragged along slowly for the first couple of years. Then, in a visit to ARCO headquarters in Los Angeles in 1995, Mr. Sullivan and Mr. McGarvey struck gold. They found the letter that the company had written to Mr. Duker, setting the condition that employees should have a claim to 50 percent of all profits.

As a result, the judge in the case ruled that a profit-sharing contract indeed existed and was binding on the owners. But how much money beyond their fair share, the lawyers now wondered, had Mr. Duker and Mr. Broussard awarded to themselves? And had they stashed it somewhere?

The beginning of an answer to both questions arrived in the law firm's mail a few months later from an anonymous source. It was a one-page memo from the files of Norsk Hydro, a Norwegian company that bought much of Columbia Falls Aluminum's production. Executives at Norsk were worried, the memo said, that they were being forced to "enter into a contract with an 'empty' company in the Cayman Islands."

Further investigation by the two lawyers revealed that Mr. Duker had created a shell company in the Cay-

PERFORMANCE				IN U.S. DOLLARS				IN LOCAL CURR.			
Country	Index	Week % Chg.	Week Rank	YTD % Chg.	YTD Rank	Dividend Yield	Index	Week % Chg.	Week Rank	YTD % Chg.	YTD Rank
Australia	218.42	1.5	9	9.1	21	3.49	222.66	9.0			
Austria	221.62	-0.3	16	17.2	14	1.57	208.11	17.8			
Belgium	327.48	2.1	7	28.7	6	2.40	301.19	29.5			
Brazil	266.18	0.8	12	11.6	20	1.84	558.08	14.1			
Britain	390.91	-2.1	22	17.8	13	2.85	343.97	15.1			
Canada	247.96	2.0	8	16.7	15	1.56	256.81	16.7			
Denmark	516.00	-0.1	14	15.3	18	1.25	483.67	16.1			
Finland	413.79	5.8	1	48.6	1	1.89	476.51	49.7			
France	301.94	-0.2	15	28.2	9	2.04	286.90	27.0			
Germany	282.14	-0.9	20	23.0	11	1.24	265.12	23.8			
Hong Kong	332.47	-2.7	24	-6.9	27	4.77	330.69	-6.9			
Indonesia	57.70	-4.5	26	-12.7	28	2.35	266.71	28.7			
Ireland	545.22	5.4	2	35.8	5	1.76	550.52	38.7			
Italy	173.43	3.0	4	47.4	2	1.09	231.38	48.9			
Japan	95.89	-4.4	25	0.6	23	0.99	79.81	1.9			
Malaysia	184.64	-9.8	28	12.3	19	2.56	269.51	9.4			
Mexico	1,690.09	3.0	5	-6.3	26	1.47	15,703.07	-1.2			
Netherlands	496.83	-0.7	19	21.2	12	2.00	461.54	21.7			
New Zealand	75.62	1.5	10	-1.0	24	4.54	71.89	2.9			
Norway	340.92	0.2	13	6.7	22	1.80	347.07	8.6			
Philippines	99.72	-0.6	17	25.7	10	1.09	188.60	19.6			
Singapore	211.81	-6.3	27	-5.9	25	1.95	156.17	-10.7			
South Africa	337.12	4.0	3	27.0	8	2.39	371.48	31.6			
Spain	389.85	-0.7	18	43.4	3	1.69	453.34	44.4			
Sweden	599.17	2.5	6	27.6	7	1.70	688.67	24.9			
Switzerland	394.84	-1.3	21	15.9	17	1.06	366.76	19.0			
Thailand	27.39	-2.5	23	41.9	4	7.16	41.94	16.3			
United States	459.24	1.2	11	15.9	16	1.39	459.24	15.9			

COMPOSITE INDICES			
Europe	356.29	-0.6	23.2
Pacific Basin	106.69	-3.9	0.8
Europe/Pacific	210.72	-1.6	15.6
World	293.68	-0.0	15.7

April 13-17: Two More Giant Merger Deals Help Propel the Dow Past 9,100

PRICES			
DOMESTIC EQUITIES			
Broad market	Up 0.18%		
S. & P. 500 index	1,112.72		
Blue chips	Up 1.92%		
Dow 30 industrials	9,167.50		
Small capitalization	Up 1.45%		
Russell 2000 index	487.01		

DOMESTIC BONDS			
Treasuries	Up 0.12%		
Ryan Labs. Total Return	217.85		
Municipals	Down 0.15%		
Bond Buyer index	122.81		
Corporates	Up 0.17%		
Merrill Lynch Master index	958.31		

AROUND THE WORLD			
European stocks	Down 0.62%		
F.T.-Actuaries Europe	356.29		
Asian stocks	Down 3.87%		
F.T.-Actuaries Pacific Basin	106.69		
Gold	Down 0.26%		
New York cash price	\$309.40		

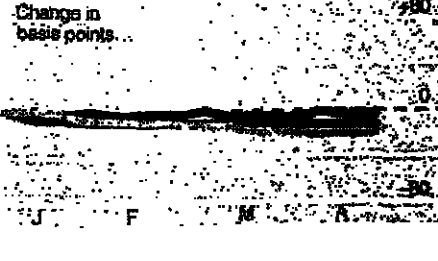
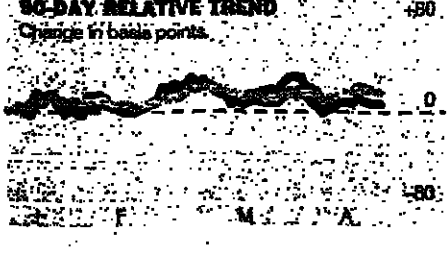
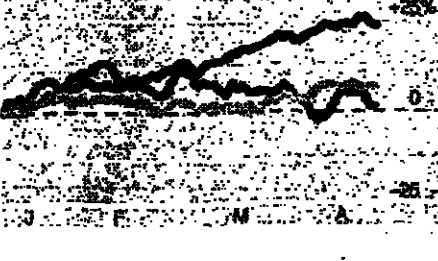
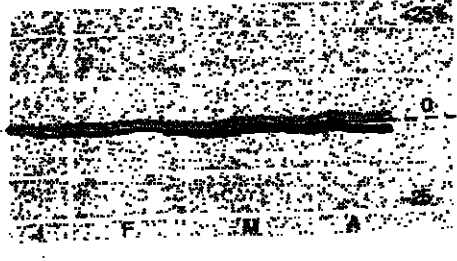
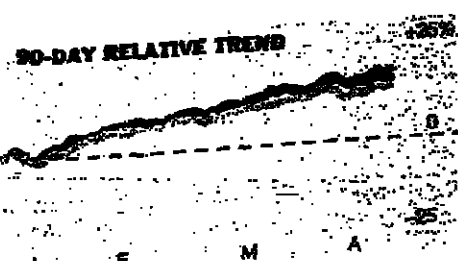
Foreign indexes are given in dollar terms

YIELDS

BONDS			
Long bonds	5.87%		
30-year Treasuries	Down 1 basis pt.		
Notes	5.50%		
2-year Treasuries	Up 2 basis pts.		
Municipals	5.28%		
Bond Buyer index	Up 1 basis pt.		

100 basis points = 1 percentage point

OTHER INVESTMENTS			
Money market funds	5.03%		
Taxable average	Unchanged		
Bank C.D.'s	4.97%		
1-year small savers	Unchanged		
Stocks	1.43%		
S. & P. 500 dividend yield	Unchanged		



Sources: Bank Rate Monitor; Bloomberg Financial Markets; The Bond Buyer; Datastream; Goldman, Sachs; IBC's Money Fund Report; Merrill Lynch; Standard & Poor's; Ryan Labs

The New York Times

Founded in 1851

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Quicker, Not Thicker Lawyering

Kenneth Starr finally, finally got it right in resigning his pending appointment as dean of the Pepperdine University law and public policy schools. Given his record of political clumsiness, his appointment of a communications adviser is probably a sound idea, too. But Mr. Starr's statement that "the end is not yet in sight" in his investigation of President Clinton is distressing and raises once again the question of why Mr. Starr is so thick when it comes to understanding his public obligation as independent counsel.

We have defended Mr. Starr against verbal muggings by White House advisers. We bow to no one when it comes to regarding the charges against President Clinton as serious. That has been our view since Mr. Clinton and his wife first began dissembling about the Whitewater real estate deal, and it has continued through all the allegations about misuse of Federal agencies, peddling of political access and obstruction of justice. The public deserves an answer on these charges, and the rule of law demands it.

But it is time for Mr. Starr to move toward showing what he has learned. His main excuses for delay at this point are the White House's slowness in producing witnesses or documents or its use of outrageously expensive claims of executive privilege. The White House clearly hopes to wear down the counsel and the public with delaying tactics. But Mr. Starr has the legal resources to counter such tactics by pressing the Supreme Court for expedited rulings.

He cannot, however, afford to be seen as leasurously or so mired in legal technicalities that he has lost sight of his main commission as a special prosecutor. That is to establish in a thorough, fair

and timely way whether the President and his top officials are law-abiding citizens. No one wants a rush job. But Mr. Starr has had ample financial resources and time to be closing in on conclusions.

The special nature of investigating a sitting President imposes some special obligations. The practicalities of governance, for example, mean that indictments or reports to the House of Representatives bearing on the issue of impeachment must be delayed to the point of inducing paralysis. Mr. Clinton has less than three years to serve. The nation needs to spend those years with a President who can govern or in the orderly resolution of serious charges, but not awaiting the outcome of an interminable investigation. Mr. Starr may not be able to answer every question, but he has had enough time to see if there have been prosecutable charges or reportable offenses in the main areas assigned to him.

Public confidence is a factor, too. Mr. Starr has damaged that confidence with his unrealistic view of conflict of interest. He will undermine it further if he does not begin either to charge or to clear the people he is investigating in a timely way. Mr. Starr should want to be seen as tough and efficient, not merely stubborn and obsessive.

There is one joint step that Mr. Starr and the Justice Department can make immediately to move the process along. Attorney General Janet Reno should accept his suggestion that he and the department agree on an independent-minded lawyer to investigate whether Mr. Starr's Whitewater witness, David Hale, is reliable. Speedy resolution of such issues is an approach that needs to be applied more broadly.

Mr. Pataki's Adirondacks Opportunity

Gov. George Pataki is earning an unexpected reputation as a friend of the environment, but his permanent legacy in this field will depend heavily on whether he seizes every available opportunity to protect the Adirondacks. New York's Adirondack Park, the crown jewel of America's state parks, is a six-million-acre expanse that could accommodate Yellowstone, Yosemite, Glacier and Grand Canyon National Parks with room to spare. Half of it is protected state land, the other half private, and the struggle has always been to find ways to acquire large parcels of private land when they come on the market, thus enlarging the wilderness before the speculators arrive on the scene.

About 360,000 acres of private land are now up for grabs. The largest parcels belong to two big paper companies. Champion, which is shifting its corporate investments elsewhere, is offering 145,000 acres and Domtar is seeking an easement on 105,000 acres, under which the company would sell all development rights to the state but continue to log the property. Several river corridors, shorelines and islands are also available.

This gives the state a rare chance to protect large chunks of wildlife habitat. For once, money may not be an issue. As part of its new budget, the State Legislature last week approved a total of \$88 million for open space acquisition, \$40 million from the 1996 environmental bond act and \$48 million from the Environmental Protection Fund. The state

cannot use all of it in one place. But Mr. Pataki has already spent generously to acquire open space elsewhere, including the acquisition of Sterling Forest, so he should use as much of this money as he reasonably can for the Adirondacks. It is estimated that the entire 360,000 acres could be acquired or put into easement for less than \$70 million.

Mr. Pataki should also instruct his staff to bring these deals to a quick conclusion before speculators move in to raise the price. Finally, he could ask his Republican allies, chiefly Senator Alfonse D'Amato, to seek Federal help. Traditionally, the Federal Land and Water Conservation Fund has provided money to the states for open space acquisition. But in recent years, important Federal projects have absorbed all the money and the so-called "state-side" grants have disappeared. With Mr. D'Amato's help, a modest portion of these funds might be recaptured for useful projects like the Adirondacks.

We applaud Mr. Pataki's progressive inclinations on the environment. Throughout his term, Mr. Pataki has rarely missed even the smallest chance to improve his environmental credentials. Recently, for example, he quietly concluded an agreement with Trout Unlimited, a private conservation group, to repair damage done to legendary trout streams in the Catskills after the floods of 1996. The Adirondacks, of course, present a much bigger target of opportunity. It would be a shame to miss it.

Another Insult to Immigrants

Trent Lott, the Senate majority leader, and Senator Phil Gramm are holding up a floor vote on a conference bill that could restore food stamps for 250,000 legal immigrants, ameliorating the most odious remaining provision of the 1996 welfare law. The law removed the only federally guaranteed support program for immigrants, stripping food stamps from about 800,000 of them. In New York State alone, the law has driven 140,000 immigrants into soup kitchens and other desperate measures.

The conference bill would reduce by almost \$2 billion over five years the food stamp program's administrative costs and funnel about \$800 million of the savings back into the program. The money would restore food stamps for three groups of legal

immigrants who resided in the United States before the 1996 law was passed — children, the elderly and those who have become disabled. The senators who oppose the bill would instead use the money to pay for highway demonstration projects.

New York, New Jersey and a few other states are spending their own money to restore food stamps. But most legal immigrants do not benefit, and the families that do are usually forced to get by with only a half to two-thirds of their normal allotment of food stamps. Besides, few states are likely to keep spending their own money once the next downturn hits and their budgets tighten. In a year when the Federal Treasury is flush, there is no excuse to deny food to hungry neighbors.

See You in Syndication

The final episode has been filmed in great secrecy, and it is all over but the waiting and the hype until May 14, when the last "Seinfeld" airs. This is the show that set records, not in longevity nor, perhaps, in the breadth of its audience, but in actor salaries and the cost for 30 seconds of ad time on its final show — \$2 million. The show's Thursday night spot in the NBC lineup now seems so canonized as to dwarf all possible replacements.

"Seinfeld," its creators have said, is the show about nothing. But if "Seinfeld" is about nothing, what was "The Burns and Allen Show" about? "Seinfeld" has proved that if, in fact, every sitcom has been about nothing, there are at least subtle shades of nothingness, nuances of timing and details of observation that can make one show seem much more accurate and funny than the competition. And if sometimes "Seinfeld" seemed like a morality play without a moral, or a neurotic opera bouffe,

that too has given the show its immediacy. It is tempting to claim that the special "nothingness" of "Seinfeld" marks our coming-of-age as viewers. But that is not how time works on TV or in our lives as TV-watchers. No one gets to come of age.

There is nothing more purely television than the buildup to this final episode. What, after all, is coming to an end? The continuing growth of characters who never grew? The development of a plot that never developed? It sounds almost Shakespearean to say that a quantity of nothingness now ends. It is all made odder, of course, by the fact that "Seinfeld" is already into its syndication run, where the characters will live forever and only the context and the production values will appear to age. But that is the way it goes with representations of life. Grown men wept in 1841 when Little Nell died in Dickens's novel "The Old Curiosity Shop." All they had to do was turn to page 1 to find her living again.

Workfare Can't Work Without Better Child Care

To the Editor:

Perhaps the New York City workfare participants in need of child care mentioned in your April 17 editorial "More Than a Menial Job" and featured in your April 14 front-page article should consider sharing household expenses and responsibilities with a husband or a roommate.

It has been a myth of the feminist revolution that the average single mother can afford to support her family on a single income, with or without government assistance. No one would suggest that a decent life style can be maintained on welfare and a low-paying entry-level job.

With the additional income and sharing of expenses that come with a spouse or a roommate, it is possible to maintain a more comfortable standard of living. It is a harsh truth that traditional family relations are traditional because they worked in the past and continue to work in the present.

Metairie, La., April 17, 1998

Early Intervention

To the Editor:

Re "More Than a Menial Job" (editorial, April 17): If welfare is ever to be eliminated, it cannot be achieved on the backs of inadequately nurtured children. As repeatedly demonstrated, early intervention in the first years of life can provide a child with the cognitive and emotional tools to cope with the demands of society, and an increasingly technological one at that. The money spent for workfare and day care would be better used to build nurturing environments for 1-to-3-year-olds and their parents.

Brooklyn, April 17, 1998

Co-op Arrangement

To the Editor:

The obvious solution to the lack of child care available to mothers in workfare programs is apparently not so obvious (editorial, April 17). The solution is a co-op arrangement where, say, five mothers each take care of all their children one day of the week while the other four go to workfare jobs. Each does one day of child care and four days of workfare.

There is no budgetary cost for this care, only a 20 percent reduction in the hours worked by the women. And therein lies the problem: the outrage of the day care operators, who would lose money.

San Jose, Calif., April 17, 1998

Taxing Poor Families

To the Editor:

While three more states — Maine, Massachusetts and Pennsylvania — stopped taxing the poorest families in 1997 (news article, April 13), New York City has the dubious distinction of taxing families too poor to pay state or Federal income taxes.

A study by the city's Independent Budget Office finds that inflation has eroded the value of the city's household income tax credit over the past 10 years. At the same time, Federal and state programs to decrease the income tax burden on the working poor have become more generous.

As a result, this year nearly 100,000 households will pay personal income taxes to the city but not to the state and Federal governments — more than triple the number of households affected in 1993.

This could be remedied for \$30 million a year by creating a nonrefundable earned-income tax credit in conjunction with a local child care credit.

DOUGLAS A. CRISTELLO
Director, Independent Budget Office
New York, April 14, 1998

Relax the Rules

To the Editor:

To address the day care shortage

for workfare participants (editorial, April 17), New York should reduce the credentialing requirements that make it difficult for private providers to offer affordable child care.

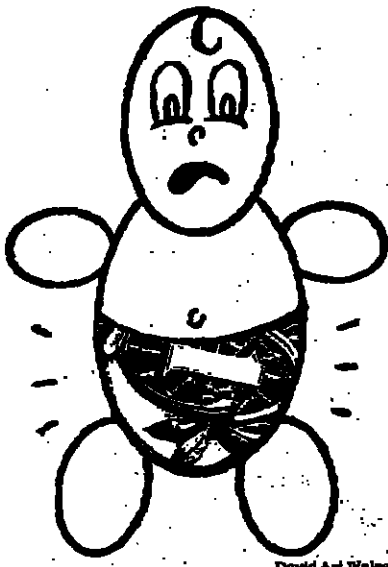
To open a group day care center outside one's home, New York City requires that prospective employees meet the same certification requirements as public school teachers. A center director either must have obtained a master's degree or must enroll in a master's program upon being licensed. While it may be hard to find fault with the motivation behind New York's regulations, are educational credentials the best or only assurance for parents regarding the wholesomeness of a center's environment?

WILLIAM E. MELLOR
President, Institute for Justice
Washington, April 17, 1998

Day Care for All

To the Editor:

With my children returning to public school this week after an inconvenient spring break, your April 17 editorial mentioning the problem of day care for mothers on workfare hit home. Day care in this country is an individually constructed set of services, cobbled together to meet the needs of each working parent. Most parents (not just poor parents) face



David Art Wales

an acute lack of day care services.

While few families have a stay-at-home parent today, the public school system seems to operate as if they do. Even those with enough money find it difficult to find reliable care. Baby sitters cancel, child care workers become disabled and preschools and public schools have countless vacation days and in-service days that are not always scheduled in advance.

I propose that we face up to our child care needs by providing federally regulated, reliable care for all our country's children. Means testing is an excellent way to finance programs and make Federal money go further.

ALEXANDRA B. GIGNOUX
Swarthmore, Pa., April 17, 1998

Full-Time Parents

To the Editor:

Your April 17 editorial mentioning the lack of day care for workfare participants highlights the crux of the welfare debate: staying at home raising children is not an activity that our society values. A case in point is revealed in your April 14 front-page article, which reports that Anthony Sweeney, a caseworker from Queens, "knows all about the child care shortage," he says, "but he thinks most of these women just want to sit home doing nothing."

As a full-time parent of three, I can assure Mr. Sweeney that staying home raising children is not sitting at home doing nothing.

We should be clamoring for benefits that allow a parent to stay home full time until the children are school age,

and then part time until they are grown, not creating legislation that finds more value in a minimum or no-wage job.

DEE EWING
Cameron Park, Calif., April 17, 1998

Self-Contained Solution

To the Editor:

Your April 17 editorial "More Than a Menial Job" mentions the lack of day care for workfare participants. Am I the only one to see that this program presents its own solution? Put workfare participants through a training program to which they can bring their children. Then some workfare participants can care for the children of other workfare participants while the others do the workfare jobs.

ROBERT GINSBERG
New York, April 17, 1998

A Cage, Not a Pedestal

To the Editor:

Re your April 17 editorial and the lack of day care for workfare participants: According to the historian William Chafe, in 1947-48 the administration of Gov. Thomas E. Dewey of New York, seeking to force mothers out of the work force, fought successfully to eliminate the publicly financed day care centers created during World War II.

As Mr. Chafe writes, since "seven out of eight families using the centers could not earn a living wage unless the mother worked," the state youth commissioner suggested that working mothers might better go on relief so that they could care for their children" at home.

In 1973 Justice William J. Brennan Jr. decried such "protective" policies, which, he said, "place women not on a pedestal but in a cage." The attitude that single motherhood cannot exempt women from attaining economic self-sufficiency has not been accompanied by an effort to alleviate the burdens of child rearing, which still fall disproportionately on mothers, especially single mothers.

ROBERT K. FITZPATRICK
Brooklyn, April 17, 1998

Broken Promise

To the Editor:

"More Than a Menial Job" (editorial, April 17) says the lack of adequate child care is "a crucial part of any shift to the workplace for many women now on welfare." Your April 14 front-page article mentioned the "promise enshrined in state law" to workfare applicants of child care choice. The law states that districts "shall provide the services and resources of which the law is entitled to receive."

If suitable care does not exist, the parent is supposed to be excused from workfare. Your article shows this provision of the law is being ignored. New York City is in effect breaking the child care portion of the law. The trade-off is damage to children.

ANN SAND
New York, April 17, 1998

Life After Workfare

To the Editor:

Re "More Than a Menial Job" (editorial, April 17): What of those workfare participants who have extensive work histories but no marketable job skills? Will cleaning a park for 23 hours a week benefit those who have been forced out of college, high school equivalency and vocational training programs?

Scarce day care is subsidized for workfare participants, yet what happens when they find themselves without day care arrangements when their workfare assignments are over?

JESSICA KLAJMAN
Brooklyn, April 17, 1998

The writer is a graduate student in social work at Columbia University.

To Keep Social Security Solvent, Diversify but Don't Privatize

To the Editor:

Congressional Republicans and others have proposed "privatizing" Social Security into a system of individual retirement accounts (letters, April 15).

Privatization would eliminate Social Security's two founding principles: the "social" part and the "security" part. Retirees would be left to soar, sink or swim based on the fate of their individual stock or bond portfolios.

There is a good case for using projected Federal budget surpluses to shore up the Social Security system by giving it an endowment of investment capital. Under this model, the system's governors could be given latitude to invest some portion of its assets in the stock market, when economic conditions warrant it.

MICHAEL KATZ
Berkeley, Calif., April 15, 1998

To the Editor:

"Social Security's Gender Gap" (Op-Ed, April 13) describes lower Social Security benefits for women. These derive largely from the fact that women on average earn less than men. That results in part from the fact

that women more than men provide family members with care, tend to move in and out of the labor market and thereby lower their earnings.

But along with men, low-income women who head households qualify for the earned income tax credit. When a working mother dies or becomes disabled, her children receive Social Security benefits based on her earnings. And all low earners obtain benefits based on a formula weighted in favor of the low and modestly paid.

Not least of all, of the 41 million adult beneficiaries, Social Security beneficiaries who are women outnumber men by 75 million. That number will grow because women live longer.

JOAN B. BERNSTEIN
St. Louis, April 15, 1998

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'Nanny Tax' Problem

To the Editor:

The problem with the "nanny tax" (editorial, April 14) is it is virtually impossible to find a child care worker who will not quit when asked to provide a Social Security number. You interview dozens of prospective nannies to find one who is right for your child. When a match is made, it seems as if it's made in heaven.

This is mostly a cash-only business, and the greatest concern of any worker is not that her employer won't pay Social Security tax but that he will report her income. Since there is a shortage of supply versus a growing demand, workers can call the tune.

The increase in the nonpayment of the nanny tax since the Zof Baird incident has probably come about because more child care workers have become aware of the option to work without taxes and are now demanding it.

JAMES T. NOBLE
Wolfeboro, N.H., April 14, 1998

To the Editor:

"The Old Tax Dodge" (Business Day, April 15) correctly pinpoints the cause of the temptation to overstate the purchase price of stocks when computing capital gains as being the fact that only the sales price is reportable by brokers to the Internal Revenue Service. You don't mention, however, that option trades are not reportable at all, which would seem to provide an even greater temptation for "forgetfulness" at this time of year.

ROBERT COWEN
Flushing, Queens, April 15, 1998

How to Stay a Titan

By Ron Chernow

On May 15, 1911, in a soft voice that belied the supreme drama of the moment, Chief Justice Edward White read aloud a 20,000-word opinion, ordering the breakup of Standard Oil for violating the antitrust laws. Thus ended a morality play that had riveted America for five years, ever since Teddy Roosevelt's trust-busters decided to teach the trust and its founder, John D. Rockefeller, a lesson in corporate citizenship.

Amid the current wave of corporate mergers, the specter of Standard Oil now hovers over a swelling antitrust debate. On Tuesday, the appeals hearing in the Justice Department's antitrust probe of Microsoft is scheduled to begin. Many critics have noted the often eerie parallels between Rockefeller and Bill Gates.

Standard Oil was the most feared and admired monopoly of its day, refining, distributing, and marketing nearly 90 percent of America's oil. Microsoft produces 90 percent of the operating systems in new personal computers, prompting similar public ambivalence, for computers are now

Bill Gates can learn from John D. Rockefeller.

as indispensable to the economy as oil.

The saga of John D. Rockefeller abounds in cautionary tales for Bill Gates. Like Mr. Gates, Rockefeller earned his fortune in a new industry where the rules of the game had to be improvised. He invested in his first Cleveland refinery in 1863, just four years after oil was discovered in Pennsylvania. In 1870, he established Standard Oil to bring this chaotic industry under his control. While skeptics wondered whether the oil would last, Rockefeller exhibited a fierce, messianic faith in its future. As he coped with a chronic surplus of refining capacity, he lost all trust in competition and began to champion a new economic dispensation: cooperation, his euphemism for monopoly.

In building his empire, Rockefeller patented many tactics that would be outlawed by the Sherman Antitrust Act in 1890. He colluded with railroads to win lucrative freight rates, secretly bought out rivals, throttled oil producers by controlling the pipelines, and monopolized oil sales by slashing prices when interlopers appeared. Like Mr. Gates, he adhered to the gospel of high-volume, low-cost production, believing that he had vouchsafed something precious to humanity: cheap illumination by kerosene.

Mr. Gates, of course, is no less evangelical about computers. He stoutly denies that Microsoft is a monopoly because it has lowered prices and improved products. Yet falling prices for personal computers and constant upgrades of Windows technology don't really acquit him of being a monopolist; they simply affirm that he is a very smart monopolist. Many people assume that the trust kings of the

Ron Chernow is the author of a forthcoming biography, "Titan: The Life of John D. Rockefeller Sr."

Gilded Age simply gouged consumers and sold shoddy products. But Rockefeller was an enterprising businessman who boasted that, in its first 20 years, Standard Oil lowered retail kerosene prices to 7.5 cents per gallon from 23.5 cents — a drop only partly explained by sinking crude oil prices. The trust blanketed oil fields with efficient pipelines and pioneered marketing by tank wagons. It was dreaded more for its low, predatory pricing than for fleecing consumers. Incessant innovation and relatively cheap prices may be necessary conditions for maintaining a monopoly.

Rockefeller never conspired his monopoly as an unlimited license to mint money. If he got too greedy, consumers could switch to substitutes — say, coal instead of fuel oil. Indeed, Edison's light bulb finally doomed the kerosene business that first formed Rockefeller's fortune, though he and Standard Oil were then rescued by the automobile. Rockefeller set prices high enough to guarantee substantial profits but never so high as to lure competitors back into the field. And he refrained from achieving a 100 percent monopoly, later confessing that he allowed a few dozen refiners to eke out a meager existence so he could cite competition in the industry.

The same qualities that make people like Rockefeller and Bill Gates matchless businessmen — a single-minded intensity, an implacable attitude toward competitors — prepare them poorly for the delicate art of public relations. Almost from Standard Oil's inception, Rockefeller was hounded by courts and legislators, yet he never conceded any legitimacy to public inquiry. He seldom granted interviews or allowed himself to be photographed. When Ida Tarbell exposed his methods in *McClure's Magazine* from 1902 to 1905, making him America's most hated mogul, he didn't dignify her serial with a response. By the time Standard Oil hired its first publicist, in 1906, it had already lost the battle for public opinion.

Under fire from the Justice Department, Mr. Gates has awakened belatedly to the need to burnish his image, fielding a small army of aggressive public relations people. He now pops up in golf advertisements and on talk shows. The change in persona, if often cosmetic and unconvincing, at least acknowledges the need for greater accountability and the decisive role of public opinion in antitrust cases.

As Rockefeller's story illustrates, antitrust prosecutions tend to be highly political. Major cases are long, expensive, and highly visible. Trustbusters resort to them as weapons of last resort. Because Standard Oil adopted a strident, antagonistic tone toward investigators, it bore the brunt of Teddy Roosevelt's wrath. Some Standard Oil executives thought that U.S. Steel, *International Harvester* and other trusts forged by J.P. Morgan escaped prosecution by taking a more conciliatory approach.

In defying the Government's 1905 consent decree that prevented it from "bundling" its Windows operating system with its Internet Explorer browser — the fear being that Microsoft would unfairly parlay dominance in desktop computers into Internet control — Microsoft gambled on a hard-line approach. Yet, in refusing to make concessions, it has only invited wider scrutiny — as the Standard Oil precedent would have predicted.

If Microsoft seems an all-powerful colossus, it is actually far more vul-



Vittorio Costantini/Modern Dag

nerable than Standard Oil. The oil trust was 20 times the size of its nearest competitor, the puny Pure Oil. Except for production, where its market share never exceeded 35 percent, Standard Oil owned the entire industry. The antitrust crusade against it was spearheaded by a ragtag band of maverick refiners, muckraking journalists and reform-minded attorneys general, supported by small oil producers from new fields in Texas, California and Kansas.

By contrast, Microsoft faces a phalanx of formidable competitors, including Netscape, Oracle, I.B.M. and Sun Microsystems. These powerful companies deploy hordes of lawyers, publicists and politicians to keep Microsoft on the defensive.

Even so, Mr. Gates remains popular, even heroic, among many Americans. The move to block him will succeed only if his competitors can convince the public that they aren't trying to win in the political arena what they have failed to achieve in the marketplace. So far, there are only glimmers of a mass popular revolt against Mr. Gates of the sort that Ida Tarbell and Teddy Roosevelt managed to engineer against Rockefeller.

If Standard Oil's fate argues for Microsoft to take a more cooperative approach, it also suggests that the Justice Department should avoid broad antitrust action against the company. Standard Oil presided over a comparatively static industry, with big technological shifts — like the advent of long-distance pipelines or oil tankers — occurring only two or three times a decade. The core products remained remarkably unchanged.

By contrast, the computer industry thrives on perpetual revolutions in the

design, power and even purposes of its products. New technologies, like network computers or the Java programming language, have the potential to reshape the industry and subvert Microsoft's domination. The panicky, almost paranoid reaction of Bill Gates to his competitors is perhaps the strongest testimony to his underlying anxiety about his monopoly — an anxiety that seldom ruffled the sleep of John D. Rockefeller.

The Justice Department should insure that Mr. Gates doesn't abuse his operating system monopoly as he expands into new areas. At the same time, it should recognize that he can never rule his industry as absolutely as Rockefeller did the oil business. There's no need to re-enact the agony of the Standard Oil breakup.

In America

BOB HERBERT

Ball Pork

The multipurpose stadium that Mayor Rudolph Giuliani wants to build for the Yankees on the West Side of Manhattan would cost \$1.06 billion, according to a study commissioned by the city, the state and the Yankees.

That figure alone should make any clear-thinking New Yorker catch his or her breath. A billion dollars! For a ball park. The study alone cost \$600,000.

Last November New York voters rejected a \$2.4 billion bond act for school construction throughout the state. Now we want to sink a billion dollars into a playground over a rail yard on the West Side because a multimillionaire named Steinbrenner feels entitled to public assistance in his effort to realize an even greater return on his private investment.

George Steinbrenner bought the Yankees in 1973 for \$10 million. The team is now worth an estimated \$500 million. And here's Mr. Steinbrenner with his hand out, looking for more. And here's the Mayor with his hand in our pockets, ready to give it to him.

Mr. Giuliani was in Arizona and New Mexico on Friday burnishing his national profile. He has high hopes for higher office and will do almost anything to avoid the ignominy of having to travel the country as the New York Mayor who lost the Yankees.

At \$1.06 billion, the proposed West Side stadium would be the most expensive ball park in U.S. history, by far. Oriole Park at Camden Yards in Baltimore — a single-purpose baseball stadium that, by all accounts, is a wonderful place to watch a game — was built for \$206 million, including the cost of the land.

Now hold on to your hats, or rather your wallets: The \$1.06 billion figure for the West Side stadium, which would have to be built on a platform over the rail yards, is impossibly low. For starters, it does not include the cost of the property, which is owned by the Metropolitan Transportation Authority.

Perhaps Mr. Steinbrenner and Mr. Giuliani are assuming the M.T.A. will give it away. A spokeswoman for the authority said on Friday, "We haven't been approached about it."

The M.T.A. has long hoped to develop the property and use the revenue for its own capital needs. The long-term financial outlook at the M.T.A. is bleak. Gene Russianoff of the Straphangers Campaign, a mass-transit advocacy group, testified as

follows at a public hearing in January:

"Rather than relying on state funding, the current M.T.A. capital program proposes to pile up a mountain of debt to be repaid by a variety of sources, including future fare increases. The M.T.A. acknowledges that interest payments on bonds will skyrocket from less than 11 percent of its gross revenues in 1994 to nearly 19 percent by 1999. That's a jump from \$519 million in debt service to \$990 million — nearly doubling the debt in five years."

This is not an agency that needs to be giving away valuable property. And a state official, speaking some time ago, indicated strongly that any deal to build a stadium over the rail yards would have to include "fair

The Steinbrenner-Giuliani agenda.

and proper" compensation for the M.T.A.

So tack that "compensation" onto the \$1.06 billion cost of the stadium. And always keep in mind that the estimated cost of the last Yankee Stadium renovation was \$24 million, while the final — that is to say, real — cost was more than \$100 million.

In theory, the West Side stadium would be financed by bonds issued by the city and state. They would be paid off with revenues from luxury boxes, ticket sales, concessions and the like. But when the cost of putting up a stadium starts getting into the billions you quickly reach a point where ticket and concession revenues are insufficient. You can only charge so much for a hot dog.

And, of course, there's always George Steinbrenner to consider. He wants more money, not less, than he is getting now from the sale of tickets and concessions. That's the whole point of a new park.

So we've got a situation here. "The question," said a state official who asked not to be identified, "is whether the dedicated revenue source is large enough to support a bond offering that would cover the entire cost of construction. The answer is no. No way."

The official added ruefully that Mr. Steinbrenner's franchise would only increase in value, even as taxpayers were making up the shortfall.

Israel's Southern Landscapes

by Aviva Bar-Am & Yisrael Shalem

Your personal guide to Eilat and the Negev.

Another outstanding guide by these two veteran travel writers. Aviva Bar-Am is well known to The Jerusalem Post readers from her lively family travel columns. Dozens of family hikes and easy nature trails; fascinating car trips throughout the Negev; sensational walks off the beaten track; visits to ancient Biblical, Nabatean and Roman cities; explore Bedouin culture and modern settlements. Includes a unique English-Hebrew dictionary of flora and fauna. Highly acclaimed book. Softcover, 318 pp., with full-color illustrations.

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MAUREEN DOWD

We're NOT Worse Than Lawyers

Reporters are covering the imminent arrival of their very own Godzilla, Steven Brill.

The famously abrasive, smart and successful Mr. Brill, who made a fortune on the American Lawyer magazine and Court TV, is starting a splashy new media criticism magazine, Content.

He has plastered posters on the sides of New York City buses with the grinning faces of Brokaw, Rather and Jennings, promising "This June, the Media's Free Ride Comes to a Screaming Halt." Content wooed subscribers by vowing that "legendary journalist" Steven Brill will guard the guards, "unmask the charlatans" and hold journalists' feet to the fire.

Of course, who knew the first feet would be so tender? Giving a speech at Dalton, the Upper East Side private school where his daughter is a student, Mr. Brill suggested in passing that the school newspaper could be tougher and stir up more controversy.

The guy who blew the lid off the corrupt teamsters turning his gimlet eye on a high school newspaper? Mr. Brill suggested the Daltonian reporters could do a chart comparing teachers' salaries with tuition and endowment. He once made a splash by publishing incomes of partners at top law firms. (Perhaps the students should really think big and blow the whistle on the incomes of media mogul parents.)

Is this a diabolical plot by our new Torquemada to demoralize and scare off a fresh generation of reporters?

The Daltonian's editors, Nathaniel Rich and Stefan Marolachakis, who

Are we?

won a national award for stories investigating a headmaster search and student drug use, turned out to be much braver than all of us big reporters, cringing under our desks.

Before the fearsome Mr. Brill even had a chance to go to press with Content, he felt the lash of a little media criticism himself. The 18-year-old editors chided the 47-year-old editor in an editorial: "It's easy to criticize a publication before a public audience without substantial facts, and without a legitimate opportunity for a response. Surely the irresponsibility of this kind of critique does not escape Mr. Brill, whose magazine will target this form of laziness."

The teens also tweaked Mr. Brill for attacking "news organizations for selling their product through flashy advertising and sensationalism" and then using celebrity to promote Content, dropping the name of "ER's George Clooney, (Brill emphasized that Clooney was his 'good friend') who will contribute to the first issue."

Full disclosure: Nathaniel is the son of my colleague Frank Rich. But I have another bias: I think the press flagellates itself enough, without any outside help from George Clooney.

I called Nathaniel and Stefan, who were fretting over whether they could come up with enough scandals

to satisfy Mr. Brill.

"The fifth floor bathroom's awful," Stefan said. "The cafeteria's 'Seafood Surprise' is made of 40 percent fish," Nathaniel offered.

Nathaniel sniffed at some of the stories Mr. Brill has trumpeted, like "Phony Letters to Teen Mags."

"He's going to expose false letters in Seventeen magazine?" Nathaniel scoffed. "Give me a break. They're so concerned with the story behind the story. Why not just be concerned with the story?"

I went to see Mr. Brill yesterday in his new Fifth Avenue offices. I told him I worried that Content was pandering to the public disgust with the press, and would just encourage more cynicism.

He had a mock Content cover on his wall of Mr. Clooney, who might write a column on the Hollywood press, perhaps with his dad, a former Cincinnati anchorman.

"Reporters are the only people on the planet who make lawyers look good," Mr. Brill said. His philosophy is to embarrass reporters who do the wrong thing, and make heroes of reporters who do the right thing.

The cocky editor turned defensive at the mention of Dalton. He said his wife and daughter had told him he deserved whatever he got for "dissing" the school paper.

"I would really like to hire both of those kids," he graciously said of Nathaniel and Stefan.

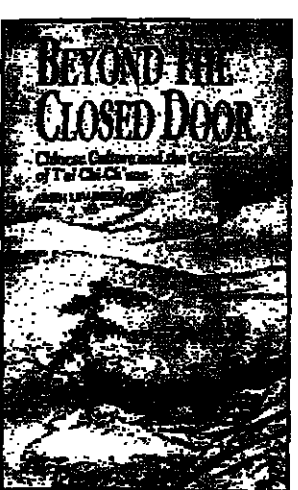
Restlessly tossing a baseball, he muttered that he didn't think he would like this column very much.

I knew exactly how he felt. Being criticized in the press is no fun.

BEYOND THE CLOSED DOOR

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THE ARTS

Imagining a Life After the Unimaginable

By THANE ROSENBAUM

TAKE one Italian chemist; add sulfurous poison pellets of Zyklon B, the stench of rotting, skeletal corpses, and an entire periodic table of indifference; mix it together in a flaming petri dish called Auschwitz, and you have a formula that could transform a man of science into a poet of atrocity.

That was the life of Primo Levi, who was best known for the classic literary account of his internment in a Nazi death camp, "Survival in Auschwitz," which was published in 1947. After being liberated from the camp, Levi had eventually returned to his home in Turin, Italy, where he became a conscience of the nation, an icon of the international human rights movement and the author of many books and essays. In 1987, at the age of 67, he ended his life by suicide.

Now, more than 50 years after Auschwitz and more than a decade after Levi's death, his journey home is the subject of a feature film, "The Truce," directed by Francesco Rosi of Italy and starring John Turturro as Levi. The film, which opens on Friday, is based on "The Reawakening" (the title of the book in Italian is "La Tregua," or "The Truce"), a 1963 sequel memoir that begins with Levi's liberation from the camp and tracks his circuitous return to Turin. ("The Periodic Table," a third volume of autobiographical reflections on his experience at Auschwitz, was published in 1984.)

"Many films have been made about the Holocaust," said Mr. Rosi, who filmed "The Truce" in Ukraine, in English, with a supporting cast made up largely of Italians and Ukrainians, "but they are never about combining the tragedy with the vitality of a man's reawakening and the slow process of reclaiming his life."

Which perhaps explains why Mr. Rosi adapted "The Reawakening" rather than "Survival in Auschwitz." The idea of taking the pages of a literary masterpiece, putting them onto celluloid frames and winding the visual result through a projector is, of course, nothing new. The novels of Jane Austen, Henry James and Edith Wharton have made this a dream decade for costume and set designers. But these were writers of fiction, and they weren't writing about Auschwitz, which is not a proper setting for Technicolor spectacle. In "The Truce," the scenes of the camp are brief, in flashback and in black and white, as if to underscore that Auschwitz stands apart — a place where the usual moral vocabulary fails.

"I never considered making a film of 'Survival in Auschwitz,' because it can't be done," said Mr. Rosi, who is best known to American audiences for "Illustrious Corpses" (1976), "Christ Stopped at Eboli" (1979) and "Three Brothers" (1981). "It would be a sacrilege. With 'The Truce,' the audience gets some sense of what happened, but through the filter of literature and with a story that a camera can show."

While "The Truce" may be a feel-good sequel to a horror film that cannot be made, the movie nevertheless seemed haunted in its own inception. It took Mr. Rosi five years to be able to begin production, and the filming took 20 weeks. The weather never cooperated. The isolation and stark landscape of Ukraine were hard on the crew members, many of whom became homesick. The cinematographer, Pasquale de Santis, died before the film was finished.

"I'm not superstitious, but maybe this is what happens when you dig up things and fool around with ghosts," said Mr. Turturro, who lost more than 30 pounds in the interest of authenticity.

"When I first saw the camp," he continued, referring to a re-creation of Auschwitz in Ukraine, "I was

wearing the striped uniform and the wooden clogs, and my legs went weak. I was very shaken. When you're behind the barbed wire, you feel the impossibility of understanding the experience because you know that you are ultimately free."

For both the director and the film's star, "The Truce" became a sort of obsession, a commitment to giving Levi's picturesque words a new artistic life.

"A WEEK before his death, I spoke with him and asked if I could make a film of 'The Truce,'" Mr. Rosi recalled, referring to Levi. "He told me that I brought light to him in a dark moment. 'The Truce' always reminded him of the joyousness of life, and how important it is to smile and to love. But to succeed with this film, both Levi and I realized that I was taking a risk, and he took it with me."

And what was that risk? "The film had to balance the grotesque with all that is beautiful about life," Mr. Rosi explained. "It also had to be respectful of the Holocaust and faithful to Levi's memoir."

To that end, Mr. Turturro occasionally speaks Levi's words in voice-over. He does so in dialogue, too, making statements like these: "We come from a place where one forgets passion"; "God cannot exist if Auschwitz exists"; "The worst thing that they did was to crush our souls, our capacity for compassion, filling the void with hatred, even toward each other."

Mr. Rosi's adaptation takes one controversial turn in a scene in which a train filled with survivors pulls into Munich and a German soldier, upon seeing Levi dressed in his camp uniform, kneels down in repentance. In the book, Levi is ignored.

"I felt the need to represent the accepting of responsibility by showing this gesture from a German," Mr. Rosi said. "I didn't mean it to look like a pardoning, or to alleviate

Primo Levi wrote brilliantly of his Auschwitz experience. 'The Truce' attempts to bring some of that story to film.

German guilt, because nobody can do that. But I want to believe that at least one German would have made this kind of gesture."

Ironically, neither Mr. Rosi nor Mr. Turturro cared much for films about the Holocaust until they collaborated on "The Truce." "I felt that these films were always filled with too much emotion, too histrionic, too much was being discharged in the performance," said Mr. Turturro. "Instead, I think they should implore, more like a documentary. That's why I've always been more interested in how the Holocaust happened, or what happened after."

The fact that "The Truce" takes place just after the Holocaust makes it not only watchable but also unusual, important and subject to interpretation beyond standard film criticism. The film begins with a scene of Russian soldiers on horseback, liberating Auschwitz. Levi and a group of survivors are now free, but to do what? Having lived through a time of unmediated madness, they must now put aside the regimen of survival and reacquaint themselves with the pleasures and simpler pains of ordinary life. And they also have to find the strength to go home.

Although made by an Italian director, "The Truce" in many ways has the feel of an American road movie,



John Turturro as Primo Levi in "The Truce," an adaptation of "The Reawakening," Levi's memoir about leaving Auschwitz and returning to Italy.

featuring a group of people on something of a mythical journey — not escaping home but headed toward it, yet ambivalent about what awaits them when they finally arrive. With the Holocaust as backdrop, however, home can't be found by following a straight line. Instead, for Levi and his fellow survivors, the journey is plagued by detour and indirection as they make their way through the villages and resettlement camps and along the abandoned train tracks of Central Europe.

"With Levi, it's not about his experience, but how he brings you along with him," Mr. Turturro said. "He's a great tour guide and a master of simple details. My job was to be as understated as possible and to let the audience observe a man who was himself an observer."

Unlike most Holocaust survivors, however, Primo Levi had something to go back to. His home was intact, and in the film his mother and sister are there to embrace him upon his return. This ending suits the overall mood of "The Truce," with its emphasis on Levi's re-entry into the world and the reawakening of his humanity. But no matter how well-intentioned "The Truce" is, many viewers will leave the film with a misleadingly romantic impression of what it meant to exit Auschwitz.

MOST survivors remained in displaced-persons camps, with no where to go, and with no one waiting for them anywhere. Home, if it existed at all, was too emblematic of death. Most Germans gave no indication of being sorry. And Levi, of course, eventually killed himself, bringing into question whether he reconciled his survival with the horror of what he had witnessed — whether his return to the daily sensations of life ever did truly heal him.

Part of this difficulty of interpretation lies in the fact that, as literature, "The Reawakening" provides more of a sense of the complex divide between hope and despair than a two-hour film can ever do. But this difficulty is also related to a particular artistic conception, and perhaps to wishful thinking.

Because Levi led a productive life for more than four decades after

Auschwitz, there is a temptation for Mr. Rosi — and for all of us who cherish Levi's memory — to look past his despair and instead dwell on the more heroic, positive aspects of his story. "The fact that he suffered from depression and ultimately committed suicide doesn't change the fact he came back to life after Auschwitz," insisted Mr. Rosi.

But the grim tale of the Holocaust didn't end with Auschwitz, and Levi, of course, was not alone in being a notable writer and survivor who committed suicide. Also in this category are Paul Celan, Jean Améry, Piotr Rawicz, Brigid Bettelheim, and Jerzy Kosinski and Tadeusz Borowski.

"No matter how resplendent their worldly achievements, no matter how great the acclaim," said Daniel Jonah Goldhagen, author of "Hitler's Willing Executioners," the book that recently led to renewed conversations about the Holocaust, "these could only mask the survivors' scars, which at any moment could break open, exposing the festering wounds."

True, in Levi's case, the dark emotions of a Holocaust survivor did co-exist beside the imperatives of life. He learned how to laugh again, and

how to listen to music; he was aroused by sexual feelings; he rediscovered nature and ventured out of the loneliness of exile. And as portrayed by Mr. Turturro, he does a pretty good imitation of a hen.

Yet ultimately, the most revealing scene in "The Truce" is one that shows that after Auschwitz, liberation could lead only to a partial reawakening to life. Levi observes children rolling naked and playfully on a grass field but then recalls another group of children being herded into a gas chamber — one second walking, the next second smoke, their laughter stilled forever.

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The director Francesco Rosi, left, and John Turturro — "Fooling around with ghosts."

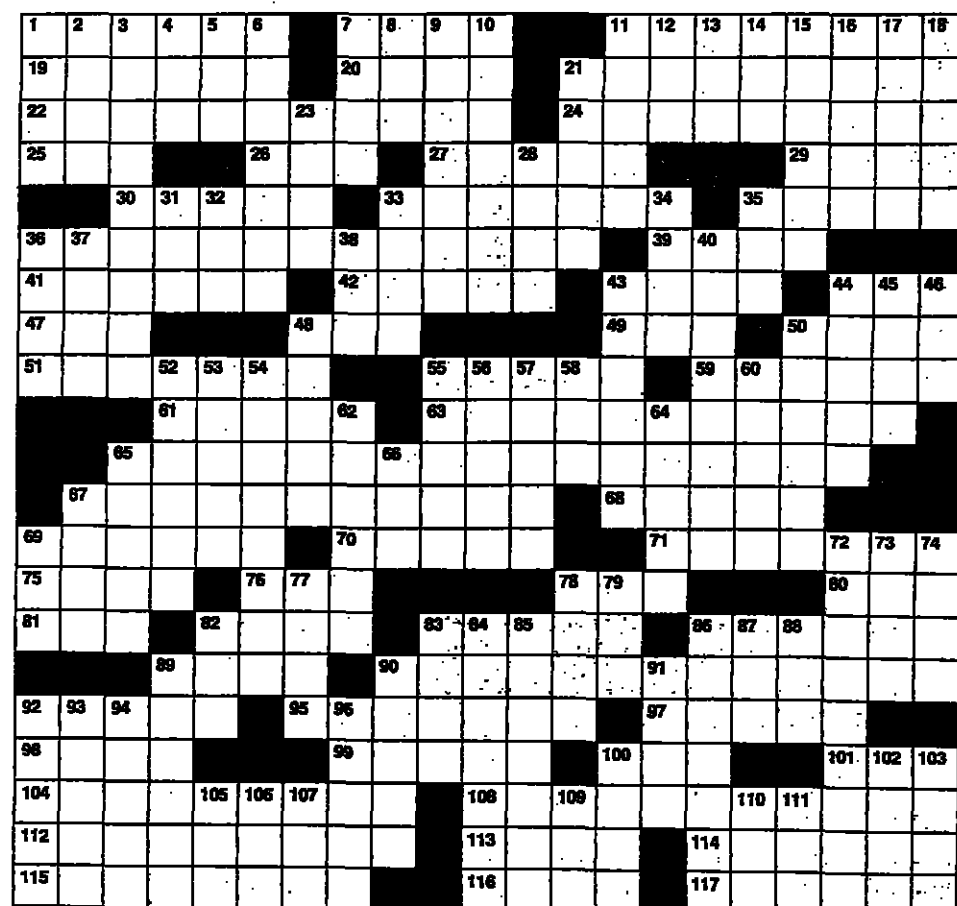
WORLD CAPITALISM

BY RICH NORRIS / EDITED BY WILL SHORTZ

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DIN SEAL STOPS IRONY
 EVES CALER GREY NOVAE
 BANK ASIDO NOPE ABETS
 ANTI-CHETAY COLLECTOR
 CHINUPS DOOLE OUTAGE
 LOOSE DUFFALOYX BILLS
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 BONE BIRD NCJ
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 RATTING GREGS SSTS RND

Hitler's pet hate

Could the young Ludwig Wittgenstein, who attended school with Hitler, have been the catalyst for the Führer's antisemitism? A new book, 'The Jew of Linz,' argues that he might well have been. Douglas Davis reports



1904 class photo shows Hitler (top right) and Wittgenstein (bottom left). Did a quarrel between two schoolboys radically influence the history of the 20th century?

Who is the unidentified Jewish schoolboy in Adolf Hitler's racist testament *Mein Kampf* who stirred the future Nazi leader's hatred of Jews? A startling clue may be found in a photograph of 14-year-olds at the Linz Realschule in 1904. There, within arm's length of each other, are two boys who would grow up to shape their age. One is Adolf Hitler, bovine and sullen; the other – delicate, sensitive and staring intently into the camera – is the brilliant Ludwig Wittgenstein, destined to become one of the great minds and seminal philosophers of the 20th century.

The theory that the young scion of a highly cultured, fabulously wealthy Viennese family could have been the catalyst that drove Hitler, product of a relatively impoverished family from the primitive backwoods of northern Austria, is explored – and persuasively argued – by Australian academic and Wittgenstein specialist Kimberley Cornish in *The Jew of Linz*, published in London this month by Century, an imprint of Random House.

Wittgenstein and Hitler were born just six days apart in April 1889 and represented the polar opposites of fin-de-siècle Austrian society. While Brahms and Mahler were regular visitors to the rarefied cultural and intellectual atmosphere of the Wittgenstein home, Hitler was the abused child of uncultured peasant parents, whose family was reportedly afflicted with deformity and insanity as a result of generations of inbreeding.

And while the Wittgenstein family had formed a famous cart with the Rothschilds to control more than 60 percent of the iron and steel production of the Austro-Hungarian empire (and the railway and tire industries), Hitler's father, an illegitimate peasant, clawed his way up to the post of minor customs official.

Wittgenstein's father, Karl, acutely aware that a virulent strain of antisemitic poison was spreading through Europe, tried to insulate his family members from its effects and cut them off from their Jewish roots by embracing Christianity. But, as author Cornish notes, "Despite its nominal Catholicism, the Wittgenstein family's Jewish origins were well known."

The Realschule in Linz was 100 miles away from Vienna, and Karl Wittgenstein arranged for young Ludwig to board with a teacher.

Both were fascinated by architecture, music and the power of language. And both displayed a youthful enthusiasm for 19th-century philosopher Arthur Schopenhauer. Wittgenstein and Hitler had both learned Wagner's opera *Die Meistersinger* by heart, and both had a talent for whistling the music they loved – accurately and at length. Hitler did so with what a contemporary described as a "curious, penetrating vibrato," while Wittgenstein had the prissy habit of correcting even the smallest imperfections in those who attempted the tunes.

Cornish notes that adolescents who share a passion for common intellectual interests tend to be

drawn together, "but these two boys had personalities so dominating as to count as remarkable within 20th century history. A clash was more likely to occur."

Cornish points to a later account of Hitler as Nazi wartime leader: "One evening during the war, Hitler was whistling a classical air. When a secretary had the temerity to suggest that he had made a mistake in the melody, the Führer was furious, shouting, 'I don't have it wrong. It's the composer who made a mistake.'"

By all accounts it seems that everything to which Hitler aspired had already been acquired by the Wittgenstein family.

Hitler was passionate about art

and modeled his clumsy, adolescent – and ultimately unsuccessful – efforts on the Austrian master Rudolph von Alt. One of the largest private collections of Von Alt's work hung in the Wittgenstein home.

Hitler was also passionate about music, and Brahms was the great musician of his time. "Jewry raised Brahms to the pinnacle," Hitler later grumbled. "He was lionized in the salons." The chief such salon was to be found in the Wittgenstein home.

One of the earliest clues to Hitler's antisemitism comes in *Mein Kampf*, where Hitler talks of a Jewish boy at school whom "we did not particularly trust." Various

experiences had led us to doubt his discretion." While there was a handful of other Jewish boys at the school, Wittgenstein, who was gay, fits this description perfectly. Cornish contends, "Small, unathletic, stuttering, homosexual adolescents are notoriously badly treated at school," he notes, "more so if they tell tales."

Wittgenstein, he continues, had an almost fanatical attitude toward what he regarded as honesty. It was, moreover, a process that demanded confessions to others.

In a cryptic boyhood journal, Cornish notes, Wittgenstein recorded a "talk about confessions with my colleagues." "But what a refined and cultured Viennese might see as a brave act of soul-baring," writes Cornish, "less precious country lads might treat with contempt, particularly if his confessions got them into trouble."

The second volume of *Mein Kampf* contains a long passage which, revealingly, attacks school-boy confession and betrayal. Hitler concludes: "A boy who snitches on his comrades practices treason and thus displays a mentality which... is exactly the equivalent to treason to one's country. Such a boy can by no means be regarded as a good and decent child... more than once a little informer has grown up to be a big scoundrel."

Hitler was kicked out of the Linz Realschule. According to Cornish, "Hitler's bullying father was dead and the boy had started to misbehave. He was asked to leave school at the end of the year," the same year Wittgenstein started there.

In *Mein Kampf*, Hitler recounts encounters with Jews to justify his antisemitism, "but the Jewish boy at the Realschule is the first and only one referred to as an individual Jew he had met rather than as a type," notes Cornish.

"Something happened between Hitler and Wittgenstein at the Realschule," he writes. "We face, I think, the astounding possibility that the course of the 20th century was radically influenced by a quarrel between two schoolboys."

Indeed, the Wittgenstein family might have served as a paradigm for the Jewish stereotype that drove Hitler ever deeper into his antisemitic dementia.

Cornish notes that Hitler virulently attacked Jews who converted to Christianity and married Aryans (the Wittgensteins affected aristocratic German ancestors); Jews who manipulated the stock market (the elder Wittgenstein faced repeated public accusations of this); Jews who galled the public (the elder Wittgenstein wrote columns for the newspapers which Hitler almost certainly read); Jews who controlled the economy (the Wittgenstein-Rothschild cartel was repeatedly attacked as "Jewish monopoly capital").

Until the end, notes Cornish, Hitler had "an obsession with making Linz a greater center of art than Vienna. Art treasures from all over Europe were to be sent there for the Adolf Hitler Museum. This was not simply to help the home town; he was doing it to rub the noses of the Wittgensteins in the dirt."

"As for the Wittgenstein steel company, [Hitler] had set up the Hermann Goerring steelworks in Linz, which then owned the Wittgenstein cartel's plant."

The German and the Nazi

If Henry and Ernst even knew what a Jew was, they didn't care. They were young, concerned only with youthful concerns.

They met in the early 1920s at the athletics club in the Wurzburg suburb of Grombühl and became best buddies, doing everything together. By coincidence, they even shared the same surname, May. Children believe they will be friends forever, and Henry and Ernst might have been, had not one event changed them into mortal enemies.

The war. "We ran on the same relay team," Henry wrote in his memoirs. "We played in the same fife and drum corps."

But when they reached the age when play ends and combat begins, they were on opposite sides: Henry, an American soldier, Ernst, a Nazi.

Henry May, now 90 and living in Denver, is telling his story for the first time. His soul is seared with the past, and he has suffered, he still suffers to this day, not for sins he committed but for crimes perpetrated by his people against another.

Ernst May cannot be found. He is probably dead. But that he lived at all beyond 1949 enrages his boyhood pal.

Ernst was found guilty of

action is not such that I can expect it to be pleasant. I am not afraid of the future...

"I wish you, dear Mama May and all your dear ones the best and remain yours with my innermost feelings of our old friendship."

"Your Ernst"

Not Page One



Sam Orbaum

HENRY MAY left Germany for America in 1928, settling in Milwaukee, where he got a job with the Harley-Davidson Motorcycle Co. His family followed nine months later.

Ernst May had planned to go with Henry, but instead enlisted in the Gruene Polizei (Federal Police Force) – at about the same time Henry emigrated.

Henry was drafted and sent overseas in January 1942, stationed outside London. He worked in intelligence under General Eisenhower, interpreting Hitler's speeches and diaries that came from North Africa. He also interrogated German prisoners.

Ernst was apparently a high-ranking Nazi officer in the occupying forces in Holland.

The day before the Normandy invasion, Staff Sergeant Henry May was issued an extraordinary certificate. "By Command of General Eisenhower," entitling that "the bearer of this card will not be interfered with in the performance of his duty by

Ernst survived the war only to wind up on Death Row. Henry has been a model citizen, active in religious, social and cultural circles.

crimes against humanity in Holland and was sentenced to hang. But he was saved from the gallows – by the intervention of Henry's father.

"THEY TRY to make a war criminal out of me," Ernst wrote to Henry's father, Henry Sr., from his prison cell in Gravenhage. "I only wish to state that whenever my military duty resulted in someone's death, it was [deemed] a war crime."

That letter, dated January 20, 1949, is a fascinating glimpse into the mind and mood of a Nazi facing execution. He is defensive, bitter, bewildered. There are no pangs of conscience, no expressions of regret – except that he was sorry he did not emigrate to America with Henry's family.

After the capitulation of Germany, special courts were created and special laws passed to prosecute us. There is a common saying: 'no laws – no punishment.' It is ignored. Special laws were passed 'after the fact.'

"Such courts consist mostly of members of the Dutch underground who committed acts of sabotage during the occupation. The judges with very few exceptions were not objective at all. They let hatred and revenge guide them in their decisions."

"We were told we should not have obeyed orders. We should have deserted. Had we deserted and... committed an act of treason against Germany we would be 'respected people' today. But because we fulfilled our duties faithfully, we are war criminals."

"There is a saying, 'petty thieves are hanged, big ones are set free.' How true. Here I need not be a petty thief. All someone has to do is say someone is a petty thief."

"Dear Mr. May, you did so right when your family emigrated. We recognize this only now. Your children are all well off..."

"What is Henry studying now? He is still the ambitious one..."

"Your grateful Ernst" He remained in prison until February 13, 1951. Five days before his release, he wrote to Henry Sr. in Milwaukee:

"Yesterday I received the pleasant news that I will go home on Friday. This means that I will leave from here [Scheveningen] for Germany. Finally I can begin the long-desired freedom."

"There was great joy at home when I notified them of my release. How it will be when I appear personally is beyond me..."

"What is Heinrich [Henry Jr.] doing? Is he still so busy?"

"What my future will be I don't know. The political situ-

the military police or any other military organization."

He survived the Blitz and went in with the invasion as a photographer – and news reporter, some of his eyewitness reports were published in *Life* magazine.

Ernst survived the war only to wind up on Death Row.

Henry has been a model citizen, active in religious, social and cultural circles. He is ardently Zionist and speaks about Israel to church groups.

Ernst won a reprieve and went home to Germany. What sort of life he led is not known, but an ardent Zionist he was probably not.

Ernst, the war criminal, did not appear to suffer psychological damage from the war; Henry, the war hero, did.

HENRY STILL has nightmares from his wartime experiences. He has questions he cannot answer, rage he cannot assuage, disillusionment with his beloved Germany – and his friend Ernst – he cannot reconcile.

In his memoirs he describes his life as "tumult." "I witnessed the agonies... of innocent people. I am still suffering because I cannot understand the philosophy applied to the helpless and defeated..."

"I do not understand how the Germans so easily and willingly adopted Hitler's ideology."

He is disappointed in his father who, he believes, "fell for [Ernst's] deliberate exploitation of his kindness..."

"[Ernst] begged Papa, a US citizen, to intervene and do his best to prevent his execution..."

Papa told me he helped to spare Ernst's life for old friendship's sake and humanitarian reasons."

Henry places morality and justice above friendship. "The very fact that Ernst was sentenced to death makes me believe he was not angelic..."

He must have been a high-ranking officer, or he would not have been held responsible for the deaths of Dutch citizens... Can I question Ernst's death sentence? I doubt it."

A friend of Henry's remarked recently that "his coming to [America]... saved his family from the Holocaust."

The curious wording suggests that Henry would have clung to principle in the face of persecution. But perhaps that is a source of his anguish; perhaps, in all these years since, he has been gnawed by the haunting thought: what if he had stayed with Ernst?

... Or if Ernst had left with him.

Grateful thanks to Ed Fortis, of Kfar Sava, who persuaded his friend Henry May to recount his story for this column.

An eccentric and a genius

As a schoolboy, Ludwig Wittgenstein was a single book in his lifetime. He was today regarded as one of the "most important philosophers of the century."

Wittgenstein inherited one of the greatest fortunes in Austria, but he inherited poverty, so wealth and obscurity to academic distinction. He gave away most of his money and became a village school-teacher, developing a reputation for his marked left-wing views.

But rather than opting for the

contemporaries – now known collectively, and notoriously, as "the Apostles" – were practicing homosexuals. All became converts to the cause of Communism soon after Wittgenstein's arrival.

He served in senior capacities in British intelligence, and all were later found to have been agents of Stalin's Soviet Union during and after World War II.

If these men, the cream of English intellectual life, were indeed recruited to the Communist cause by the brilliant and eccentric Viennese émigré, writes author Kimberley Cornish, Wittgenstein "escaped the hangman while his old boyhood rival blew his brains out in Berlin."

Ludwig Wittgenstein himself died peacefully in his bed, in Britain, in 1951.

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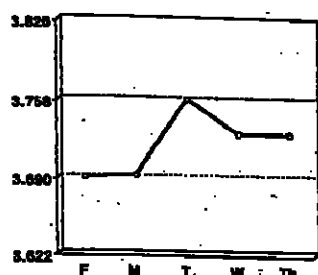
1995 BMW 525i, 68,000 km., metallic silver, like new. Tel. 09-854-1707, [792204]

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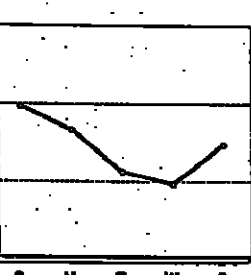
MARKETS

in brief

DOLLAR / SHEKEL

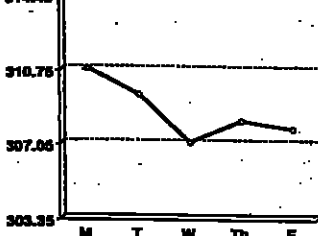


MAOF INDEX



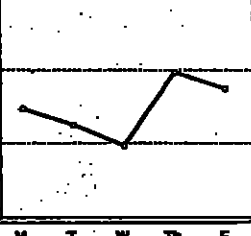
GOLD

\$ per ounce

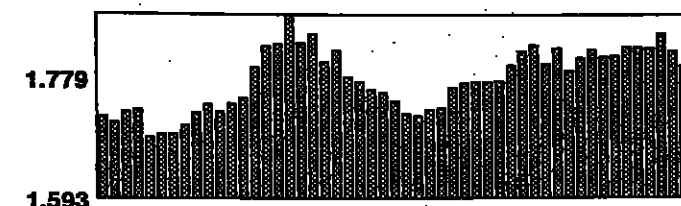


OIL

\$ per barrel of Brent crude

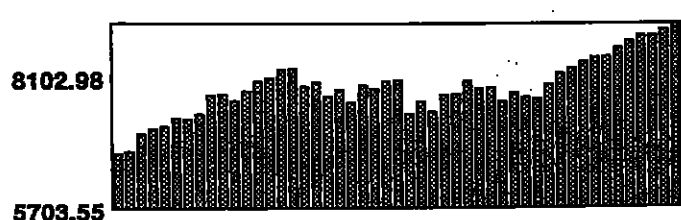


DOLLAR / DEUTSCHEMARK



April 1997 - April 1998

DOW JONES INDUST. AVG.



April 1997 - April 1998

Dutch seek monument to guilder's glory

Stirred by the imminent disappearance of the national currency in favour of the euro, the Dutch political party GPV has called for a monument to be erected to the guilder. The monument, to be dubbed "gilded nostalgia", should be cast from molten guilders and mounted near the Finance Ministry in The Hague. GPV deputy Eimen van Middelkoop told a rally of the Calvinist party on Friday.

Netanyahu to hold talks on R&D budget crisis

Industrial growth will halt by July if a solution is not found for the R&D budget shortfall of NIS 700 million, Industry and Trade Minister Nathan Sharansky said yesterday. On Wednesday, Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu is to hold talks on the problem with Sharansky and Finance Minister Yaakov Neeman. The meeting was previously set for Pessah eve.

Nina Gilbert

Ahead of 49% share offer on TASE:

S. Energy joins IEC workers' bid

By DAVID HARRIS

Israel Electric Corporation workers' committee yesterday named US-based Southern Energy as the partner to its bid to buy all the 49 percent of shares in the company the government has promised to float in the coming months.

Committee chairman Yoram Oberkovitz said the two sides have signed a letter of understanding and will meet again in May to finalize details of the bid. The estimated \$6.5 billion

required to purchase half the public utility is already in place, according to Oberkovitz. The workers are entitled to 15% of shares as of right, and will then purchase an additional 10.1%, with the remainder being bought by Southern Energy.

At this stage Southern Energy is the only partner to the plan, but Oberkovitz said more could come on board.

"We have a signed letter of understanding, but we will continue to talk," Oberkovitz said. "You can't buy shares in a minute."

The agreement, which Oberkovitz is not prepared to release at this stage, would allow Southern Energy to appoint most members of the board that would represent their partnership with the workers "but that's in the long-term. I guess this will take us a year or two to sort out."

The key aim of the workers' bid is to prevent the utility falling into private hands, which they fear would lead to widespread dismissals and an attack on employee benefits.

Furthermore, the union will pre-

vent any attempt to break up the industry beyond the government-approved 10% of electricity production, which is being transferred to the private sector.

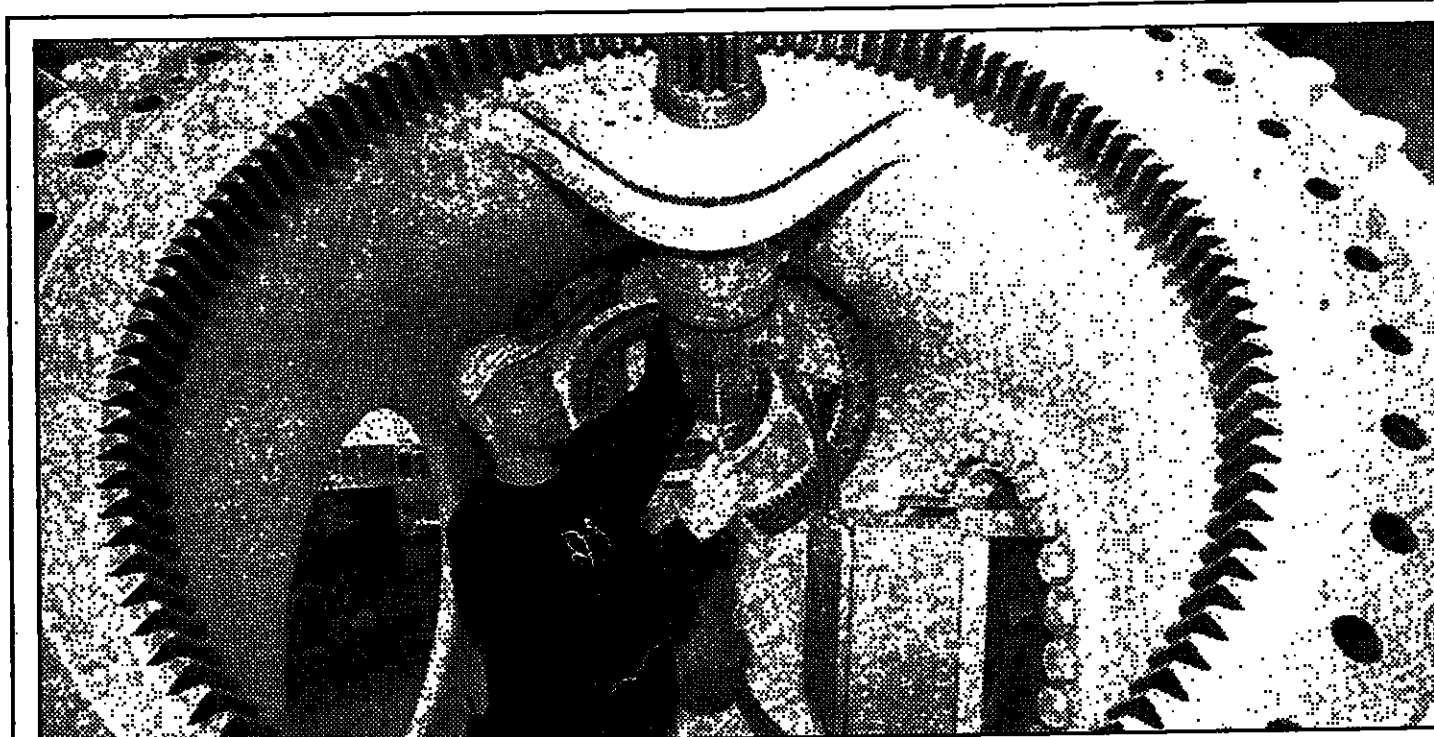
Moshe Leon, the director-general of the Prime Minister's Office, recently declared the government's intention to sell 49% of the monopoly.

Atlanta-based Southern Energy operates more than 7,000 megawatts of generating capacity and owns over 4,000 more megawatts through affiliates.

Southern Energy is a sub-

sidary of Southern Co., America's leading generator of electricity and one of the largest independent power producers in the world.

The parent company's net income last year totaled \$1.13b. and it owns five electric service companies: Alabama Power, Georgia Power, Gulf Power, Mississippi Power and Savannah Electric. The company supplies electricity in eight countries and energy-related marketing, trading, technical services and wireless telecommunications.



Windy exhibit

A man works on a hub for a windpower station at the booth of German company Tacke Windenergie yesterday, in preparation for today's opening of the world's biggest industrial fair, in Hanover, Germany. More than 7,500 companies will be showing their products.

Iscar close to sealing \$150m. deal with Korea Tungsten

By DAN GERSTENFELD

Korea Tungsten Co. said it has settled its labor union conflict, paving the way for the sale of its tungsten carbide tools division to Iscar, Bloomberg reported yesterday.

Earlier this month Iscar postponed its plan to purchase the factory, which is valued at some \$150 million, after labor unions protested the terms of the transaction. At that time, Iscar president Eitan Wertheimer said that both companies had reached agreement over price and terms, but the differences with workers kept the deal from going through. He added, however, that if Tungsten solved its internal problems, negotiations could be resumed.

The Korean unions, which were already assured that jobs would remain intact, demanded 20 percent of the sale proceeds.

Iscar has been active in Korea for some 17 years, opened an office there in the early 1990s, and was the first Israeli company to complete a major purchase of a Far East company since the beginning of the Asian economic crisis.

Formed in 1916, Korea Tungsten became a unit of Korea's 28th largest conglomerate Keo Pyung Group four years ago. The company manufactures and supplies metal products, cemented carbides, and tungsten-related goods, including three-layer tungsten carbide tools, fine ceramics, cement, and tungsten watch casings. It is branching out into auto parts through a subsidiary. The division at stake accounts for about 80 percent of Korea Tungsten's activities.

Trade with China up 43%

By NINA GILBERT

Bilateral trade with China rose 43 percent in the first quarter to \$88.3 million, from \$61.7m. in the same period in 1997, the Industry and Trade Ministry said yesterday.

A senior Chinese trade delegation, headed by Yang Wen-sheng, an adviser in China's Ministry for Economic Cooperation, is to make an official visit here at the beginning of next month with the aim of

boosting economic ties, the ministry said.

At the end of next month, Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu is to visit China.

Exports to China rose 25% in the first quarter to \$19.3 million, compared with \$15.3m. in the same period in 1997.

Imports from China in the first quarter were up 48% to \$69m. from \$46.4m.

The biggest increases in trade were in medical and optical equipment and chemicals.

Bill Gates No. 2 here to launch E-mail project

By NINA GILBERT

Microsoft Corp.'s No. 2 man, Steven Ballmer, is to arrive here today for a three-day visit to launch a government-backed E-mail project, meet with start-up companies, and hold discussions with staffers at the company's subsidiary here.

Ballmer is also due to hold discussions with companies here with which Microsoft has already

developed contacts and is considering entering into joint projects.

Microsoft is to be involved in the E-mail project involving the Communications, Bezeq and Netvision, in which everyone in the country with a telephone line will be allotted an E-mail address. The project is to be unveiled today.

Ballmer, executive vice president for sales and support, was listed this year as the sixth wealthiest person in the US by *Forbes* magazine, with net worth of \$8.3 billion. Microsoft president Bill Gates tops the list at \$40 billion.

Microsoft's only R&D facility outside the US is in Haifa's Matam advanced technology park.



Israel Airports Authority

Tender: Het Mem 2/98

For a concession to manage and operate a fast-food Italian restaurant in the Arrivals Hall of Ben-Gurion Airport

- To be eligible to participate in the tender, a bidder must be a company registered under Israeli law. The company and the business it runs must comply with all the following:
 - Have proven experience of at least three years, in the period preceding the date for starting the service, in accordance with this tender (August 3, 1998), in operating a fast-food Italian restaurant or a chain of fast-food Italian restaurants; and
 - Have a cumulative turnover of at least ten million New Israeli Shekels at current prices, not including VAT, in a business as defined in Sub-para. (1) above, in the twelve months preceding the date for submitting bids.
- A joint bid may be submitted by a number of bidders who have formed an organization for that purpose, or who undertake to form such an organization if their bid is successful. In the case of a joint bid, the following conditions must be complied with:
 - At least 67% of the share capital or the control of the new organization (or the organization that will be set up) is held by the partner who complies with the terms of Sub-para. a; and
 - The bidders attach to their bid details of their share in the organization, and a written undertaking to respect the terms of the tender, if their bid is successful. Signatures must be notarized by a lawyer.
 - An undertaking must be attached that the written agreement of the Authority will be obtained, before any change is made in the ownership and/or control of the organization.
- The agreement signed with the successful bidder will be for four years, starting August 3, 1998, and ending July 31, 2002. The Authority may, at its sole discretion, extend this period for an additional period/periods, each of which will be not less than one month, and the total of such periods will be not more than 36 (thirty-six) months. In the event of such extension(s), the Authority will have the right to increase the license fee and/or make changes in the agreement terms.
- The tender documents may be purchased from April 20, 1998, at the Commercial and Property Branch of the Authority, Main Building, Floor 2, Sunday - Thursday, between 9 a.m. and 12 noon, and between 2 and 3 p.m. Before receiving the tender documents, the applicant must submit in writing the name of the liaison person, the phone and fax numbers, and pay the cost of NIS3,000 (three thousand New Israeli Shekels), which includes VAT - in cash or by check. This sum is not refundable.
- A tour for those who purchase the tender documents only will be held on April 27, 1998, at 10 a.m.
- Bids, prepared in accordance with the tender documents, must be placed in the tenders box at the Registration and Documentation Dept. (the Archives) at the Head Office of the Authority, Ben-Gurion Airport, by Thursday, May 7, 1998 at 10 a.m.
- No undertaking is given to accept the highest or any bid.



Israel Airports Authority

Tender: Het Mem 3/98

For a concession to manage and operate a cafe in the Arrivals Hall of Ben-Gurion Airport

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MUTUAL FUNDS
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Major League Statistics (Through Friday's games)

AMERICAN LEAGUE

TEAM	W	L	ERA	BB	SO	SH	Sv
Baltimore	3.51	130	52	40	101	1	6
Texas	3.70	117	51	44	66	2	4
Anaheim	3.90	126	55	45	103	1	2
Minnesota	4.12	147	64	46	88	0	2
Boston	4.38	125	65	51	120	2	3
Cleveland	4.42	129	62	53	99	1	6
Tampa Bay	4.42	144	79	62	111	0	2
Kansas City	4.91	144	79	65	77	1	2
Chicago	5.35	144	79	65	102	0	2
Oakland	5.41	136	75	69	79	0	1
Toronto	5.48	144	79	62	111	0	4
New York	5.91	125	65	51	120	2	3
Detroit	6.17	146	81	57	90	0	1
Seattle	6.41	159	100	73	116	1	2

INDIVIDUAL PITCHING

Based on 2 decisions

IP	H	BB	SO	W	L	ERA
Washin Bos	5	3	4	2	0	0.00
Yan TB	11	1	6	10	2	0.00
CFirey Ana	32	21	9	29	3	0.56
PHarmon Bos	32	16	7	44	2	0.84
Guardado Min	7	5	2	6	1	1.29
Key Bal	19	14	4	14	2	1.42
Sale Tex	22	16	6	11	3	1.64
Holmes Min	23	16	5	8	3	1.96
Twinkley Min	19	11	9	4	1	2.37
Pavlik Tex	11	9	4	1	1	2.57
KHill Ana	18	20	5	9	2	2.45
Siroda CHW	20	20	3	11	2	2.61
Clemens Tor	13	7	7	10	2	2.63
Burke Tor	20	16	6	17	2	2.70
Holtz Ana	6	6	1	5	1	2.84
Rodriguez Min	21	21	4	20	2	3.00
Saunders TB	18	19	12	10	1	3.00
Gordon Bos	8	7	4	8	2	3.12
Murphy Bal	28	24	3	30	2	3.21
Saberhagen Bos	11	6	4	30	2	3.27
WWilliams Tor	18	23	6	20	1	3.37
Candiano Tor	26	25	11	15	1	3.46
Alvarez TB	17	16	4	11	2	3.71
McDowell Ana	21	22	5	18	1	3.86
Pettitte NY	25	29	15	20	2	3.86
DSpringer TB	15	14	4	6	1	4.02
Lowe Bos	15	14	6	11	0	4.20
Mayer Bos	24	32	3	23	1	4.38
Eyre CHW	12	15	8	9	0	4.38
Wilson Min	16	20	6	2	1	4.41
Rogers Tor	18	18	12	8	1	4.42
Worrell Det	18	15	13	1	1	4.50
Navarro CHW	16	21	5	9	1	4.50
Erickson Bal	24	35	5	11	3	4.81
Baldwin CHW	16	17	10	13	2	4.86
Gorecki TB	16	15	10	7	1	4.86
Cloutier Tor	17	19	9	6	1	5.09
Haney KC	18	17	8	12	2	5.30
DWells NY	20	19	6	15	2	5.40
Reagle Det	10	9	5	8	0	5.40
Aguiar Min	8	9	5	2	0	5.62
Nazari Tor	26	36	8	21	2	5.74
Wright CHW	20	19	7	12	1	5.75
Berthel KC	20	17	15	2	0	5.79
Guzman Tor	19	18	13	16	2	6.05
JThompson Det	21	26	7	16	1	6.33
Belcher KC	20	25	5	13	3	6.53
Timlin Tor	9	11	5	4	1	6.75
Taylor Tor	7	7	4	4	0	7.04
Assenmacher KC	17	15	6	1	1	7.11
Burch KC	17	26	3	10	1	7.27
Drabek Bal	15	20	2	7	1	7.43
Bere CHW	15	21	7	7	0	7.80
Mohler Tor	12	14	3	6	0	7.82
Henderson Tor	15	17	6	3	1	8.04
Dougherty Oak	4	6	3	1	0	8.10
Arrigo TB	14	25	3	10	1	8.16
JWright Tor	12	17	8	1	1	8.25
DiVito Tor	12	21	6	4	0	8.53
JMatheux Oak	6	8	6	5	0	8.53
Budde NY	4	7	3	2	0	10.38
Duckson Ana	9	15	5	5	0	11.17
SSanders Det	2	3	6	5	0	19.73
Staubach Bos	5	13	9	7	0	27.00

INDIVIDUAL PITCHING

Based on 25 plate appearances

Nogers AL	18	18	12	8	1	4.42
Wash. State	18	15	5	13	1	4.21
Navy	18	15	5	9	1	4.10
Navy/GW	18	15	5	13	1	4.08
Ericksen BAL	24	25	5	13	1	4.05
Baldwin GW	16	17	10	13	2	3.98
Gorecki TB	16	15	10	7	1	2
Cloudie SEA	17	19	9	6	1	5.05
Haney KC	18	17	8	12	2	5.06
DWells NYF	20	19	6	15	2	1
Keagle DE	18	17	8	5	0	2
Agnewa Hin	6	9	5	21	2	5.62
Wash. State	18	26	3	18	2	5.70
Burnett Tex	20	19	7	17	0	5.79
Bevil KC	9	7	2	15	2	0
Guzman Tor	19	18	13	16	1	3
Thompson Det	21	26	7	16	1	6.05
Belcher KC	20	25	5	13	1	6.53
Timlin SEA	9	11	5	4	1	1
Taylor Det	7	7	4	4	0	2
Aschenacker Cle	6	11	5	6	1	2
Runch SEA	17	26	3	10	1	2
Wash. State	18	26	3	10	1	2
Br. Col. W.	15	21	1	7	0	3

INDIVIDUAL PITCHING

Based on 25 plate appearances

Wright KC	12	17	8	1	1	8.25
McVey Tex	12	21	6	4	0	8.25
TP Matthews Oak	6	8	6	0	0	8.53
Budde NY	4	7	3	2	2	10.38
Dickson Ana	9	13	8	5	0	11.75
SSanders Det	2	3	6	5	0	19.77
Stocum Sea	5	13	9	7	0	27.00

TEAM BATTING					
AB	R	H	HR	RBI	Avg
Texas	500	99	163	14	.376
Tampa Bay	508	72	160	13	.364
New York	413	76	122	12	.295
Minnesota	550	100	158	16	.381
Seattle	571	103	163	29	.285
Kansas City	579	69	161	13	.278
Cleveland	476	85	130	18	.273
Boston	518	69	141	18	.269
Chicago	406	46	122	19	.268
Anaheim	472	65	129	15	.262
Detroit	466	47	120	13	.255
Chicago	459	54	113	13	.247

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Another Rotterdam marathon record

Kenya's Tsegla Loroupe enhanced the reputation of Rotterdam as the city where world marathon bests are produced with the third record in 18 years yesterday. Germany-based Loroupe, 24, broke the women's record with a time of two hours 20 minutes 47 seconds to follow in the footsteps of Portugal's Carlos Lopes and Ethiopia's Belayneh Dinsamo who set men's world best marks in the Dutch port city during the 1980s. She took advantage of perfect conditions to erase the 13-year-old best of Ingrid Kristiansen, which stood at 2:21:06 from the record books. The wait-like Kenyan, who only stands 1.53 meters high in her running socks, still had enough energy left to leap with joy as she crossed the line, picking up a cheque for \$150,000, the world record bonus in Rotterdam. Spain's Fabian Roncero won the men's race in 2:07:26, the fastest time this year. It was the 10th fastest of all time and he also set a new Spanish national record into the bargain.

(Reuters)

Defending champions France through to Fed Cup semifinals

GHENNA (AP) — Defending Fed Cup champions France reached the semifinals of the Fed Cup yesterday as veteran Nathalie Tauziat and Alexandra Fusai teamed to win the crucial doubles over Belgium's Els Callens and Laurence Courtois 6-4, 6-0.

Also advancing to the World Group I semifinals in July were Spain and Switzerland. The US held a 2-0 lead over the Netherlands after the first day and were also likely to move on.

The French, playing without No. 1 player Mary Pierce, were even at 1-1 after Saturday but fell behind 2-1 when Dominique Van Roost beat Sandrine Testud in yesterday's first reverse singles 7-5, 7-6 (9-7).

But Sarah Pitkowski saved France in the second singles, beating Sabine Appelmans 4-6, 6-4, 6-1.

Tauziat, a 30-year-old veteran, was benched by coach Yannick Noah on Saturday but brought out for doubles to team with Fusai.

In Brno, top-ranked Martina Hingis led Switzerland to a 4-1 victory over the Czech Republic in their first-

round tie. In the opening match of the day, Hingis beat Jana Novotna 4-6, 6-3, 6-2, to give Switzerland a 2-1 lead. The Swiss clinched the best-of-five tie when Patty Schnyder beat Adriana Gersi 6-3, 6-3. Hingis and Schnyder defeated Denisa Chladkova and Ludmila Richterova in doubles 6-0, 6-1.

Switzerland face France in the July 25-26 semifinals.

In Saarbrücken, Magu Serna and Conchita Martínez defeated Andrea Glass and Wiltrud Probst in doubles to give Spain a 3-2 win and a place in the semifinals. The Spaniards won the decisive doubles 6-4, 7-6 (7-5).

In reverse singles, Glass beat Martínez 3-6, 6-3, 6-2, but Serna rallied to win over Jana Kandarr 6-3, 6-4.

The Spaniards played without injured Arantxa Sanchez Vicario, No. 6 in the world. Germany were without Steffi Graf and Anke Huber, who are both injured, and used Fed Cup rookies Glass and Kandarr.

Arsenal, Man Utd set for European Cup as Liverpool fail

Rangers title hopes dented after 1-0 loss

LONDON (Reuters) — Arsenal and Manchester United's places in the European Cup looked safe yesterday after third-placed Liverpool could only manage a nervous 1-1 draw against Coventry.

Liverpool are now nine points behind second-placed Manchester United in the premier league, with four games to play. The first two teams qualify for the European Champions' League.

European Cup Winners' Cup finalists Chelsea moved back into fourth place and are just two points behind Liverpool after a Frank Leboeuf penalty gave the London club a 1-0 victory over Sheffield Wednesday.

The penalty was awarded after Norwegian Tore Andre Flo was brought down in the 23rd minute.

Chelsea, making seven changes from the team that beat Italy's

Venezia on Thursday to qualify for the Cup Winners' Cup final in Stockholm next month, looked hesitant and survived several scares.

In Coventry, Liverpool took the lead when rising star Michael Owen turned quickly with the ball and drilled it home in the 33rd minute.

Three minutes after half time, Coventry scored a well-deserved equaliser after Darren Huckerby was tripped and Dion Dublin slotted home the penalty.

Arsenal dislodged Manchester United at the top of the premier league on Saturday when they beat Wimbledon 5-0 and United could only manage a 1-1 draw with Newcastle.

Rangers' hopes of winning a 10th successive Scottish title were dented badly yesterday when they lost 1-0 to Aberdeen and had defender

Lorenzo Amoroso sent off in the second half.

The defeat allows Glasgow rivals Celtic to take a three-point lead with

just three matches remaining.

Celtic have 69 points and Rangers 66.

The decisive goal came in the 28th minute when Aberdeen forward Stephen Glass rose to glance home a header from a cross by Ricky Gillies.

Italian Amoroso, who had been booked in the first half, was shown the red card in the 60th minute for striking Aberdeen forward Eoin Jess in the face.

Scottish Premier

P W D L F A Pts

Celtic 33 21 4 6 61 23 69

Rangers 33 19 5 7 54 41 66

Hearts 33 18 9 6 64 41 63

Dundee United 33 11 10 12 38 42 43

St. Johnstone 33 11 10 12 38 42 43

Aberdeen 33 9 13 11 34 48 35

Dundee 33 9 13 11 34 48 35

St. Mirren 33 9 13 11 34 48 35

Partick Thistle 33 7 12 14 39 44 33

Greenock Morton 33 6 10 17 36 56 28

Late goals keep Inter in title chase

ROME (Reuters) — France's Yuri Djorkaeff and Brazil's Ronaldo struck twice in the last 10 minutes yesterday as Inter Milan beat Udinese 2-0 to keep alive their hopes of catching Serie A leaders Juventus, 1-0 winners at Empoli.

Second-placed Inter, a point adrift of Juventus at the start of

the day, looked destined to fall further behind the Turin side until substitute Djorkaeff broke the deadlock in the 80th minute.

Ronaldo added a second six minutes later, after Udinese goalkeeper Luigi Turci had been sent off for handling out-

Inter's sixth successive league victory.

With four matches remaining, a single point separates Juventus and Inter with the two sides due to meet in Turin next week.

European Cup finalists Juventus survived a tense finale at Empoli after defender

Alessio Tacchinardi was sent off, but persevered thanks to substitute Fabio Pecchia's 69th minute strike.

Third-place Lazio lost further ground on the two with a 2-1 defeat at Venezia, while arch-rivals AS Roma moved into fourth place courtesy of a 5-0 home victory over Brescia.

NBA Statistics

WALKER, BOS. 21 267 556 823 10.2

SABERS, POR. 22 148 575 723 10.9

Assists

St. Louis 10.3

Jackson, Ind. 10.3

Harbury, Minn. 8.1

St. Louis 8.1

Payton, Sea. 8.1

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Joe Hoffman & Ori Lewis

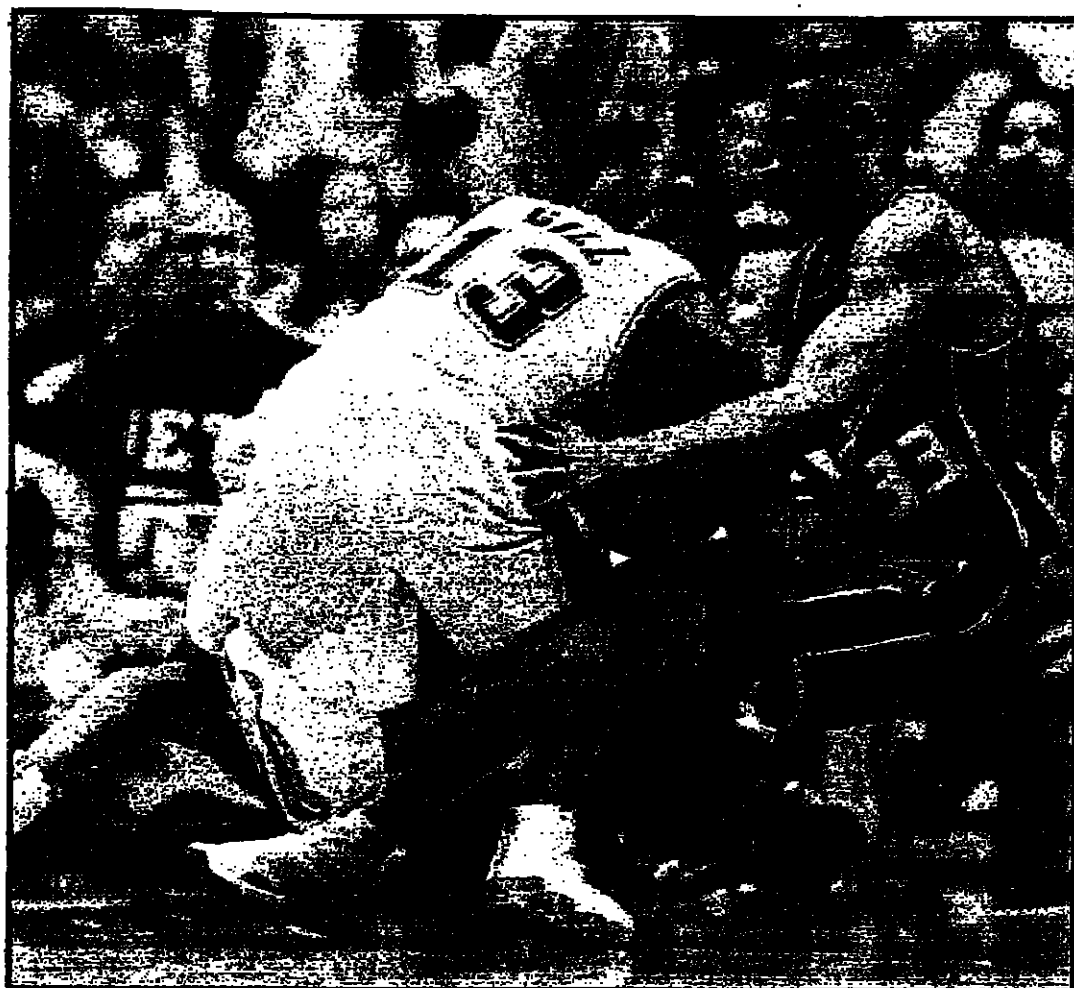
No place like home for Caps

WASHINGTON (AP) — Peter Bondra made sure the Washington Capitals would have home-ice advantage in the first round of the playoffs.

Bondra scored his 51st and 52nd goals as Washington secured fourth place in the Eastern Conference with a 2-1 victory yesterday over the Carolina Hurricanes on the final day of the regular season.

See NHL roundup, Page 22

Nets beat Pistons, clinch playoff berth



FOUL ON THE HILL — Pistons' Grant Hill fouls Nets' Kendall Gill in first-quarter action. (Reuters)

EAST RUTHERFORD, (AP) — The New Jersey Nets, dispirited and literally down to their last legs, summoned enough strength yesterday to make the playoffs for the first time in four years.

The Nets, despite going into their biggest game of the season without their two best players, claimed the eighth playoff spot in the Eastern Conference with a 114-101 victory over the Detroit Pistons.

It was the Nets' fourth chance of the week to clinch a postseason berth, and they finally did it on their last try with an inspired effort from their three healthy starters and two fill-ins.

Kendall Gill scored 27 points, including 14 in the decisive third quarter, rookie Keith Van Horn had 25 and Kerry Kittles added 22.

When the final buzzer sounded, Gill flung the ball 20 rows deep into the stands and the players gathered at midcourt, their fists raised.

New Jersey will open the best-of-5 first round at Chicago on Friday night. The Bulls swept the season series from the Nets 4-0.

New Jersey's victory eliminated the Washington Wizards, who had won four straight do-or-die games in the season's final week while the Nets were losing to the Raptors, Magic and Hornets.

Chris Gatling, starting at center because of injuries to Jayson Williams, Rony Seikaly and

Michael Cage, contributed 18 points and 10 assists, and Sherman Douglas, playing 47 of a possible 48 minutes with Sam Cassell ailing, had 18 points, 11 assists and five steals.

Grant Hill led Detroit with 21 points, 12 rebounds and seven assists. He also committed 10 turnovers.

This will be the first postseason appearance for New Jersey since Chuck Daly's final season as coach in 1993-94. The team has gone through several makeovers since, most recently by bringing in coach John Calipari and by trading the malcontents and underachievers who had helped make the franchise a laughingstock.

Some cheesy remnants of the old days remain, such as the canned crowd noise that was played incessantly over the public address speakers yesterday, but the strides made by the franchise culminated in yesterday's victory.

Detroit led for most of the first half and the first four minutes of the third quarter before New Jersey made the decisive surge.

Gill stole the ball from Hill and went in for an uncontested dunk that gave the Nets a 70-69 lead. A dunk by Scot Pollard put the Pistons back up by one, but that would be their last lead.

Gill hit consecutive baskets to make it 78-73, and New Jersey ended the quarter with an 8-0 run, including a 3-pointer by Kittles with 26 seconds left, to carry an 86-76 lead into the fourth.

The lead stayed in double digits most of the rest of the way, and Kittles ended all doubts on a drive with 1:40 left that brought the fans to their feet and prompted the Nets to walk off the court for a timeout with their arms raised.

Saturday's Games
Wizards 112, Celtics 95
Chris Webber had 27 points and 13 rebounds, but host Washington saw their slim playoff hopes evaporate.

One week ago, the Wizards were four games out of the final Eastern Conference playoff spot with four games to play. They had since beaten New York, Cleveland, Miami and Boston, while eighth-place New Jersey had lost three straight.

Antoine Walker and Ron Mercer

scored 18 points each for the Celtics, who finished 36-46 in their first season under Rick Pitino, a 21-game improvement over last year.

Cavaliers 96, Pacers 92
Zydrunas Ilgauskas scored 26 points and Shawn Kemp had 18 points and 15 rebounds as host Cleveland beat Indiana in a preview of their first-round playoff series.

Jalen Rose had 26 points and Travis Best added 21 for Indiana, which had its seven-game winning streak snapped but still finished the regular season with the best winning percentage in franchise history and most wins (58) since joining the NBA.

Cleveland, returning to the playoffs after missing them last year for the first time under coach Mike Fratello, finished 47-35 — five wins better than last year.

The teams meet Thursday night in Indianapolis.

Bulls 111, Knicks 109
Michael Jordan scored 44 points and moved toward his 10th NBA scoring title as Chicago rallied in the final quarter to win at home.

Jordan began Saturday night with a narrow edge over Shaquille O'Neal of the Lakers in the scoring race.

Timberwolves 111, Bucks 109
Tom Hammond hit a turning, fadeaway jumper from the baseline as time expired to give Minnesota the victory.

Clippers 83, Kings 77
James Robinson scored 20 points and Isaac Austin had his best rebounding game as a Clipper with 15 as host Los Angeles snapped a season-worst 10-game losing streak.

Warriors 112, Grizzlies 100
Erick Dampier and Tony Delk each had 23 points as host Golden State completed its dismal season, one that saw the Warriors finish 19-63, matching the 52-year-old franchise's mark for losses in a season.

It also included Latrell Sprewell's attack on coach P.J. Carlesimo and three losing streaks of eight games or longer.

Jason Caffey added 18 points as Golden State won its third straight game, a season high.

See NBA Statistics, Page 22

Hap. J'lem ousts Galil in 2OT; Rishon-Eilat series knotted 2-2

By ARYEH DEAN COHEN

They held an old fashioned shootout in the Galilee last night, and when the dust cleared after 16 three-pointers had swished through the nets, Hapoel Jerusalem had eliminated a courageous Hapoel Galil Elyon 102-94 in double overtime.

Those three-pointers included an Erez Hazan heave from the corner with time running out in regulation to tie the game at 72-72, and also one each by Kenny Williams and Papi Turgeman in the second overtime period, which earned coach Efi Birnbaum's club a showdown with Maccabi Tel Aviv after eliminating David Blatt's side, 3-1.

Meanwhile, Maccabi Rishon LeZion stayed alive in its battle with Hapoel Eilat, crushing the southerners 87-71 to send the series back to Eilat for Game 5 Thursday night.

Hap. Jerusalem 102
Galil Elyon 94 (2 OT)

What began as a seeming runaway for Galil ended up a real barn burner. Galil raced to an early 17-8 lead, and appeared set to send the series back to Jerusalem. But led by the defense of H. Waldman, Jerusalem roared back into the contest and led 39-36, with Galil's offense limited to some fine play by Gur Shelef.

Waldman continued to excel in the second half, and when he scored on a double pump basket and Papi Turgeman followed with

a hoop, Jerusalem had a comfortable 61-52 lead with eight minutes to play.

But no lead was comfortable last night in Upper Galilee. Alon Stein, Shelef and Andrew Kennedy led Galil's valiant comeback, and Shelef's two foul shots cut the lead to 72-69 with less than a minute left.

Waldman missed a drive and Galil Elyon got the ball to Hazan — a former Hapoel Jerusalem stalwart — in the corner for the open three which he calmly iced to send the game into overtime. Hazan, who finished with 20 points, had five three-pointers on the night, two in the first overtime.

The first extra session was a back-and-forth affair, with Stein seemingly giving Galil Elyon the advantage when he hit a turnaround jumper and then converted the free throw to give his club and 86-84 lead with just 50 seconds left. But Kenny Williams, the star of the game for Jerusalem with 29 points and 10 rebounds, hit a jump shot to tie it. Jerusalem had a shot at winning it as the clock ran down, but Motti Daniel missed a layup at the buzzer.

That's when Jerusalem, as if out to finally swat a pesky mosquito, rolled out the heavy artillery. Williams hit a jumper to open the second OT, then a three-pointer, followed by another three-pointer by Turgeman to open a 94-86 lead, essentially finishing off exhausted Galil. Shelef (28 points), playing probably his last game for Galil Elyon before heading for Maccabi Tel Aviv next season, was the only one able to score for his team, and this time Jerusalem held on for the victory.

The triumph, however, may prove costly. Jerusalem's Doron Shefa suffered an ankle injury and his fitness is questionable for the series with Maccabi Tel Aviv.

Mac. Rishon 87, Hap. Eilat 71
Jeff Kent was the difference for Rishon, hitting an incredible five three-pointers to lead coach Pini Gershon's club to the home victory.

Aided by an aggressive defense and a fast-breaking offense that seemed able to score at will against Eilat, Kent & Co. rolled to an easy victory that had Gershon playing his bench for a good portion of the second half.

For Eilat, only Joe Dawson bothered to show up, setting up Thursday night's finale to determine who will face Maccabi Ra'anana.

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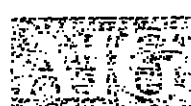
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